

Hafa Adai!

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NEPA experts chosen as EIS consultant



JOEL PINAROC

Photo shows workers and heavy machinery at an ongoing construction at the end of Hibiscus Street on Garapan on Monday. The construction resulted in an "obstruction," which alarmed nearby businesses along the beachfront.

Businesses near BSI project air concerns

By JOEL PINAROC
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REPORTER

Operators of marine sports activities have expressed concern that Best Sunshine International, Ltd.'s ongoing construction

in Garapan could affect their respective businesses.

For many of these businesses, it is not so much the construction work inside the fenced area where a 14-storey, 250-room hotel casino is being

constructed that concerns them, but the construction work outside of it, at the nearby Hibiscus Street, fronting the beach.

Ashrafal Alam, who heads Asia Marine Sports, said he is concerned that the construction

might block parking areas that tourists and visitors use.

The area is parallel to the Garapan public property that Best Sunshine has leased.

Alam's business and two others are located in the vicinity immediately facing the beach.

See BSI on Page 4

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

Dentons, a global law firm, is the consultant selected to review thousands of environmental impact documents on proposed live-fire training ranges on Tinian and Pagan, *Saipan Tribune* learned.

See NEPA on Page 4

Is Saipan ready for an integrated resort?

By JAYSON CAMACHO
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REPORTER

SINGAPORE — Ready or not is actually not the question. Rather, it is whether the \$7.1-million, 7,000-room mammoth project that Best Sunshine International, Ltd. says it will build is

scaled for the CNMI, with its limited land area and workforce.

Everyone hopes the project

pulls through but interviews with businessmen and professionals yield the answer that it's not so much that an integrated resort isn't a good idea but whether Saipan can

See RESORT on Page 4

Paternity test results out for baby of girl, 13, who was allegedly raped

» Judge allows lab technician from N. Carolina to testify via Skype about test results

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho allowed yesterday a North Carolina-based laboratory technician to testify via Skype on the paternity test results of a baby born to a 13-year-old girl

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INSIDE



BUSINESS

Abortions have declined in nearly all states, an Associated Press survey finds.

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ASIA

Sonya Baumstein sets out on 6,000-mile Pacific crossing by rowboat.

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FOCUS

The dispute over the strategic waterways of the South China Sea has intensified.

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Local

Aboard the USS *Milius*

USS *Milius* is helo-capable, meaning helicopters can land on the ship to serve purposes such as delivering mails, bringing in personnel or refueling.

USS *Milius* is an Arleigh-Burke Class destroyer. Aboard her are over 300 sailors.

FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA

By **FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA**
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REPORTER

The USS *Milius* is on its way to Hawaii today after staying four days at the Port of Saipan but before they left, I was lucky enough to get permission to go aboard.

While most of its crew was enjoying the island's great beaches, serene sceneries, and exciting adventures, I was able to tour the decks and galleys of the destroyer.

It was my first time to go on a naval ship (and a giddy kid was I) and was greeted by sailors who seemed to me very proud of their ship and to serve on board. Among them was Command Master Chief William Houlihan, who helped me get around.

As a naval ship, *Milius* is one of the smaller ones, but all the same a great ship. It is an Arleigh Burke-class guided missile destroyer, whose mission is to "provide multi-mission offensive and defensive capabilities in support of the nation's maritime security strategy." It operates as part of strike groups or underway replenishment groups but can also function independently.

Our first stop was its upper deck where the huge MK45 5"/54-caliber gun is mounted. Over on its south side is its flight deck where it's capable of landing helicopters in order to transfer mail, equipment, and people to and from the ship.

Located in various strategic positions are several more of its weaponry, including two MK41 vertical launching systems, Tomahawk cruise missile system, Harpoon cruise missile system, and two Phalanx close-in weapon system, among others.

Tough on the outside, 'city' on the inside

On the outside, *Milius* seems

intimidating—as a naval ship should be. But on the inside, as Houlihan said so himself before we went in, the ship is "like a small city."

Among the many cabins, nooks, and crannies of *Milius* is a barbershop, which explains how Navy service members avoid being scruffy sailors despite being out at sea for too long.

There are also a number of

pass for a mini-library but has many purposes such as being a conference room, prayer room or a place where dads or moms record themselves reading books to their little ones to send back home. Ain't they sweet?

More sweet for the sailors aboard is their mess deck where everyone can spend their break times to eat. Here, they can also watch movies or even play

video games. Those under pay grade E-6 and below all use the mess deck while those from E-7 through E-9 eat and do their own recreational activities at the CPO Mess.

The mess looks like a diner and aside from soda dispensers, a sundae-maker caught my eye. However, officer Houlihan said it is no longer functioning.

"We like to tease them

with the idea that there is ice cream," he said.

Over at the ship's galley is where the food is prepared. When underway, cooks prepare four meals a day. And with them feeding a ship of over 300 hungry sailors, no wonder Houlihan noted that they are the "most hardworking" in the ship.

Knowing some sailors

One of the cooks on board is a Filipino named Llewelyn Llanera. Before even coming to the ship, I already heard about her cooking from operations officer Lt. Jessica Poniatoski. She swears Llanera's *lumpia* are amazing.

"They all love it," Llanera said, "Sometimes we have *ado-bo, sinangag*. They like it. Once in a while we serve it."

Aside from Pinoy-style food, Llanera says Wednesday is burger day on the ship. They also have Taco Tuesdays and Pizza Night on Saturdays.

At 21, this is Llanera's first deployment after three years of being in the Navy. She wakes up at four in the morning and works through eight in the eve-

ning. She said it's not easy to be on board but she enjoys being with her crew.

Llanera tells me that every time they pull in is the best moment for her. But one of memory she wouldn't forget in her young navy life is "Wog Day." It is a longstanding tradition in ships and serves as an initiation rite.

"Sailors who cross the equator for the first time, anybody who's never crossed the equator on a navy ship or at all, is typically referred to as a pollywog or a wog. And once you cross, you're a shellback. There's a ceremony in every ship that initiates pollywogs to shellbacks," Houlihan said.

"Every ship will make the effort to get close to the equator, so that we can cross the equator, just for that purpose. But we're always operating in that area, not like we'll go a thousand miles out of the way," he added.

Better community

Being small has its advantage. For one, destroyers are considered fast warships. But what makes the USS *Milius* different from the bigger ships is its community and the camaraderie that they build with each other.

That is exactly why out of 23 ships, 2nd class Petty Officer Brian Hewitt, 28, chose *Milius*.

"It's smaller so it's better community on the ship. You know everybody. I talked to a couple of my buddies that I went to boot camp with [who] went to the bigger ships. They can't just bump into their command master chief and have them know their names," Hewitt said.

"This ship has a level of camaraderie that you won't find anywhere else. They just get along, there's a great deal of respect," Houlihan said.



The bridge of USS *Milius* where the ship is commanded.

FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA



The mess deck is where sailors whose pay grades are E6 and below eat and relax while underway.

FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA

CUC to withdraw its debt relief rate petition

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp will withdraw its petition for a debt service surcharge and plans to file with its regulators an “infrastructure improvement” rate instead.

Last month, utility regulators rejected CUC’s renewal of .021 per kilowatt-hour surcharge under a “debt service” rate to pay back debt owed to other government agencies.

Commissioners of the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission said then that the debt service surcharge on electric customers was not reasonable, and there was no immediate need for this relief as requested.

With the 2.1-cent surcharge, CUC was essentially continuing a rate already on electric customer’s bills, this time to pay back outstanding debt owed the Commonwealth Development Authority. The previous rate expired on May 1.

During a board meeting last Friday, CUC board director

Joe Torres motioned to retrieve this debt relief docket from the utility commission to substitute it with an “infrastructure improvement” rate.

He explained that the line losses that CUC incurs now are around 18 to 20 percent of power transferred on CUC’s grid.

“I believe doing this as a priority in the near future will reduce our rate after a full recovery of our line losses,” he said.

CUC executive director Alan Fletcher asked if this rate would be at the 2.1-cent amount.

CUC counsel James Sirok advised that they vote to just withdraw the docket. The rate’s name, amount, and filing would be voted on later.

“...That would be done after we hear from our consultants,” he said.

The board voted to withdraw the debt service petition, or docket 15-01.

Last month, CUC’s petition sought to pay back debt stretching decades back to 1985, when CDA loaned CUC \$200 million from a federal grant pledge agreement they received so CUC could build its infrastructure. CUC hasn’t paid much of this back. A legal battle in 2001 over the money was resolved in a memorandum of agreement the next year, which was revised in 2004 to turn that debt into equity for CDA.

In 2009, the agreement was executed effectively turning that total debt of about \$200 million and the total interest debt of \$138,672 into equity, or \$45 million in preferred stock held by CDA. CUC’s dividend payment was set at 2 percent, or \$900,000 a year of that amount. The deferred payment of three years is amortized over 15 years, for \$180,000 a year.

In total, CUC has to pay \$1.08 million to CDA per year, after paying off the deferred \$4.32 million by October next

year. If not, CDA can enforce a takeover of CUC management, but CDA officials say they do not intend to do that.

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Feeling lucky, Ms. Babauta walked in to New Chang Ming Market last Wednesday, June 3, 2015 to purchase four Lucky 7 Instant Scratchies. As she was scratching her fourth and last ticket, she was stunned to realize that it was the winning \$1000 ticket! There are more prizes to win, NMASA would like to bid good luck to all the players. On the photo above is a representative from New Chang Ming Market receiving the cash prize on behalf of the lucky winner.

AS INOS PROPOSES AUTHORITY OVER CW FUNDS TO LABOR SECRETARY

NMC hopes to work with Labor

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

The Northern Marianas College looks forward to working with the Inos administration and its partners to continue to address workforce needs, dean of Administration and Resource Development David Attao told *Saipan Tribune*.

Attao was responding to questions regarding Gov. Eloy S. Inos’ proposal to allocate 100 percent of contract worker fee funds to the Department of Labor.

Under the governor’s budget proposal, no CW funds are allotted to education institutions like the college or the Public School System. Instead, the Labor Secretary will administer these funds, which amounts to \$1.7 million a year, in collaboration with the college and PSS.

Specifically, Inos is asking the Legislature to suspend Public Law 15-5, which allocates these funds to PSS and NMC. He says these funds will be restricted solely to ongoing vocational education curricula and program development.

Attao said he has not formally seen the proposal to allocate these funds to the secretary of Labor, but added that NMC has a great relationship with the CNMI Department of Labor.

“There are some parameters that entities must meet to receive funding from the CW fees, one being that such entity needs to be an education and training provider, and perhaps CNMI DOL qualifies in this regard,” he said.

“As seen in the [annual CW] reports, NMC relies on these funds to help defray qualified expenses and keeps programs operating on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota,” he said.

Attao said the CW funds have helped NMC survive through the financial shortages that the CNMI government has been going through. He said losing access to such funds will impede the college’s efforts in helping address the CNMI’s workforce needs.

But he also painted a bigger picture, saying the problem the CNMI faces is the same problem the college, the Northern Marianas Technical Institute, PSS, Labor, and the administration faces—a “multi-million to billion dollar problem” imposed on the CNMI through U.S. Public Law 110-229. This law will essentially expire the contract worker program in the CNMI.

Attao said the law has the CNMI replacing “contract workers in our communities.”

“Yet we are all underfunded as a community to do so, within a short period of time,” he said.

He said data derived from the CNMI Department of Commerce and CNMI Department of Labor shows that what NMC uses CW funds for to provide services in business, nursing, and targeted trades is in line with the needs of the CNMI as a whole.

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PATERNITY

From Page 1

who was allegedly raped.

Since Gary Stuhlmiller, a laboratory technician at LabCorp., is in North Carolina, which is beyond the court's subpoena power, there is a strong public policy interest in allowing him to testify via Skype, a video conferencing application, Camacho said.

LabCorp., a paternity testing facility in Burlington, North Carolina, has often been used by the CNMI family court.

Samples were secured from the infant soon after its birth, for use in a paternity test. The samples were then sent to LabCorp. The CNMI government received the paternity test results on May 26, 2015.

Camacho said Stuhlmiller's testimony about the paternity test results will be under oath and subject to cross-examination.

"Jurors will be able to hear

Mr. Stuhlmiller's testimony and observe him testifying in real time," said the judge in granting the Office of the Attorney General's motion to call the witness via electronic video conferencing.

Camacho did not indicate in his order the test results.

In December 2014, police arrested tour bus driver Hank Kenney Peredo Taitano, then 35 years old, for allegedly raping a 13-year-old girl, causing her to become pregnant.

In her interview with the police, the girl said she was sleeping in her bedroom when Taitano came inside, held her down, and sexually abused her. She said she was crying and begging Taitano to get off her, but he was too strong for her.

The girl told police that she did not tell anyone about what had happened because she was afraid and ashamed.

The alleged rape came to light after the girl's mother and her stepfather began to wonder why her stomach was getting bigger,

so they made an appointment with a doctor.

During a checkup on Nov. 28, 2014, the doctor told the mother and her husband that the girl at that time was four months pregnant.

Taitano was charged with sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree. The jury trial will start on June 15, 2015.

The OAG plans to call Stuhlmiller as a witness to testify on the paternity test results. Assistant attorney general Shannon Foley moved to call Stuhlmiller to the witness stand by way of electronic video conferencing.

Assistant public defender Matthew Meyer, counsel for Taitano, opposed the motion. Meyer argued that the court should "find that expeditiousness and lack of subpoena power, essentially convenience and cost, should never be sufficient to outweigh a defendant's right to confront witnesses live, in person."

In granting the government's motion, Camacho said the Su-

perior Court has on multiple occasions allowed for remote testimony by expert witnesses in criminal cases when requested by the prosecution.

Camacho said in the previous case, he noted that off-island professionals are essential to ensuring the administration of justice in the CNMI.

Camacho said that rather than merely accommodating an expert's preference not to travel, allowing Skype testimony from experts allows both the prosecution and the defense the opportunity to call upon experts who may otherwise be unavailable in the CNMI.

"In the CNMI, Skype testimony by experts goes far beyond simply making trials more convenient for the parties—it ensures that the parties have access to a wide range of experts who would not ordinarily be available in the CNMI, thus allowing for the expedient and efficient administration of justice," the judge pointed out.

BSI

From Page 1

"It's just that the construction might block the parking area. Where are tourist buses going to park, and how will locals reach the beach?" asked Alam. He pointed to a "detour" that the contractor of Best Sunshine apparently created while the construction is ongoing.

The area in question is also used as a takeoff point to nearby Managaha Island, Alam said.

Alam clarified that "he has no problem" with the hotel construction itself, but that the construction at Hibiscus Street is his main "issue." He also said he was not informed of the construction work, which started only yesterday.

He also claimed that the owners of TaoTao Marine Sports were also not informed. TaoTao Marine Sports, which also leases a nearby public land, was not open yesterday.

George Taguchi, owner of Tropical Leisure Sports, Inc., said Hibiscus Street is the main access point for his business.

Unlike Asia Marine Sports, the location of Tropical Leisure Sports is under a private land lease. "But we use this [Hibiscus Street] as our main access point for pickups and drops for our customers."

He also made it clear that he is "not against" Best Sunshine but he hopes to get a clear layout on what Best Sunshine plans to do with the specific area.

"Perhaps it is best that business owners are informed of these construction," Taguchi said, adding that he, too, was not

informed of the construction.

"I don't want to interfere with what's going on, without knowing what the boundary line is," Taguchi said. "I want to find out where the easement is."

"If this is area is fenced, where are our customers going to park their vehicles?" Taguchi asked.

He stressed however, that it is best to wait in the next three or four days and find out if there will be fencing on the "blockage."

"I've been informed that the construction began only now [Monday], and it seems this will be a bit inconvenient for us," Taguchi said. "What will [Department of] Public Lands give to us? Will we be given parking spaces?"

Currently, a detour has been created. Visitors taking the short Hibiscus Street cannot go straight to the beachfront but needs to go around a temporary bend to access the beach.

This temporary bend is what concerns these adjacent businesses.

Both Alam and Taguchi said they hope that the ongoing construction at Hibiscus Street is just "temporary."

Gordon Shu, chief engineer of MEP, who was on site, said Best Sunshine has secured all the clearances to proceed with the construction.

MEP is a contractor of Best Sunshine.

Shu also confirmed that the construction started only yesterday.

Shu also said a representative from one of the businesses along the beachfront was informed of the construction. Shu declined to provide more details on the construction.

RESORT

From Page 1

handle it and where it is going to get the manpower, infrastructure, and eventually the tourists that are needed to make it viable.

In the case of Singapore, where two world-class integrated resorts and casinos—the Marina Bay Sands and the Resorts World Sentosa—are located, there are over 5 million residents in the city state alone, not to mention more than a million visitors each year.

Compare that to the CNMI, which only has about 50,000 residents, including foreign workers, and nearly 500,000 tourist arrivals each year. Even then, the arrivals numbers have only recently become rosy after about a decade of stagnation.

In 2004, arrivals to the CNMI were at 531,584. A host of negative events, including Japan Airline's pullout from the CNMI and the Asian crisis, resulted in a dramatic drop, with the tourism industry bottoming out with a historic low of 338,106 in 2011.

Arrivals started picking up in 2012 with 389,475 and 433,925 in 2013. The numbers are projected to reach 472,709 by the end of 2015, according to data from the Marianas Visitors Authority.

What does the business sector think?

Saipan businessman Paul Zak said the whole idea for an integrated resort and casino is to give tourists options. In the case of Resorts World Sentosa, it has theaters, mall shops, attractions, including the Universal Studios, a water park, and branded restaurants.

"I don't know whether we could do that in the CNMI but we need a theater. We need some place to put on some shows and I think we can just scale that down to the point where we can handle the shows. The whole idea is for tourists to be able to get good shopping, food, entertainment, and activities—that is exactly what we want to do," Zak said.

"The casino is always crowded; however, the attractions, malls,

shops are the main focus. Most of the people we saw were not in the casino and they were around the casino doing things. The CNMI doesn't even have near the quality of restaurants that they have here. To be able to give opportunities for the guests... One of the things we have on Saipan is that there are things that they are able to do in the day, but then at 6pm, what? Thank God they have things to do because I don't think that the best to do is just visit bars and clubs," he added.

Singapore's integrated resort offers a convention center, which according to Zak, is a great idea.

"New tourists are coming in because of the convention center and I think it's a great idea. Do I think we can fill 20,000 to 30,000 people in there? No, but with a convention center we will have new types of conventions," he said.

"I think that the idea is right, but the scale and the size is something that we need to look out for. But the things that we can look forward to is that tourist will have a great adventure and when they are leaving, they could say they had great time," he added.

Saipan Chamber of Commerce president Alex Sablan said the CNMI obviously wants to see the project flourish because it needs something to kick start its economy again and Best Sunshine is offering the best opportunity going forward.

"We're hoping that we could get our leadership to plan the right type of investment, development, and to 'right size it' for the CNMI because obviously here in Singapore, the product here is very large and extravagant that would dwarf the CNMI in respect to the types of development. So I think the CNMI government needs to sit down with the developer and come up with a plan," Sablan said.

"How do they entice the type of market that we need to keep our facility operational? Because at the end of the day, we don't want it to fail we want to see it flourish and survive. So we're hoping there is some kind of sit down with the government

and determine what is best for the islands, what is best for Best Sunshine, and really what's best for the overall community," Sablan added.

Tao Xing of Imperial Pacific Int. Holdings Ltd. corporate services and communications said that Saipan provides unique value compared to Singapore and any other place that has an integrated resort. Imperial Pacific is the mother company of Best Sunshine.

"I am sure there is a major segment in terms of population that would want to come to this kind of resort on Saipan. That is the uniqueness that Saipan has. I think we need to have a plan to do that and market our product out. Since we have limited resources in terms of manpower, infrastructure, and among others, we need to make sure that our plan makes the best use of the limited resource that Saipan has," Xing said.

"We could go to the mass market or the premium market in terms of getting tourists. We need to figure out a way to get the customers to come to the island. That is collectively for all the businesses on Saipan and may bring prosperity to the island," he added.

Does CNMI have the capacity?

Aside from Best Sunshine proposing its \$7-billion project for an integrated resort and casino, other hotel developers are investing in hotels on Saipan as well, which would bring a toll to the little island's meager infrastructure.

If the right developer comes in, the CNMI can negotiate new infrastructure to be put in place as a bigger and improved power grid and new water and sewage systems would be required to service new projects.

"I think infrastructure can be resolved. What can't be resolved is the overall effect of 10,000 rooms in the Commonwealth. With the tourists, we have an expected number of tourists coming in; however, that is what we need to plan and envision," Sablan said.

"So forward thinking, if we can envision to bring in other carriers and other airlines, then maybe we have a chance at this. But we have to think about this. But then we also have to think about how many people do 80 percent occupancy and 10,000 rooms come to? In our count it is nearly over 2 million to fully occupy the rooms," he added.

"Is the CNMI ready for more than 2 million, if we could get it? That is something that we need to sit down as an entire community and ponder and see what it looks like for us. The one thing that sells the CNMI is that we are a pristine and a tropical paradise."

What about employment?

Employment is another problem, Sablan said, and that's where the CNMI leadership needs to sit down and come up with a plan.

"This is another dilemma because even if we could have the 10,000 rooms operational, we don't even have it today for the workforce. We're having difficulties throughout our registry having qualified people coming into our hotels and operating them. So we've been talking about this for a couple of years, so we have a problem in bringing foreign [workers] and revenue to train the current workforce. Government needs to sit down and plan this thoroughly," he said.

Zak said he was surprised at the number of people who are employed at the two integrated resort casinos in Singapore.

"There are more than 20,000 people employed alone in these integrated resorts and casino. The availability of employees from Malaysia provides 60 million people. That is a cheap source of labor. So we are going to have a problem on how to carry off the entertainment. The whole thing about an integrated resort and casino is that it is a workable idea in order to put a lot of activities in one place. That is not a problem. It's scaling that I think that we will have a problem. Could we carry off a \$7-billion project? We would sink. Because there is just not a lot of people. I hope Best Sunshine can," Zak said.

NEPA

From Page 1

Dentons had submitted a joint application for environmental impact consultant job with Environmental Science Associates, or ESA, an environmental science and planning firm.

Notably, Dentons assisted the National Trust for Historic Preservation and the Guam Preservation Trust in suing the U.S. Department of Defense to prevent the building of live-fire range complexes on Pagat, an ancient Chamorro village in Guam.

The groups argued that the U.S. Navy failed to adequately consider and evaluate alternate sites for their firing complex, and by doing so failed to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act.

In November 2011—in what was called a victory by these groups—the U.S. Navy filed a declaration in federal court to order another supplemental review of proposed sites—essentially restarting the NEPA process over again.

On their website, under "Environmental Litigation," Dentons say the National Environmental Policy Act is an area of "particular strength" for the firm.

"The head of our U.S. Environmental practice was the lead draftsman for the NEPA's implementing regulations (which

apply to all federal agencies), and no NEPA document on which we have advised has ever been found inadequate in court," Dentons says.

Dentons was referring to partner Nicholas Yost, who served as general counsel of the Council on Environmental Quality—in the executive office of the President of the United States—from 1977 to 1981.

Yost was also attorney of the Guam Preservation Trust in their lawsuit against DOD.

According to Dentons, Yost's responsibilities under the president included lead responsibility for the development and drafting of the regulations that implement the NEPA and its environmental impact statement requirement throughout the federal government.

The administration last Friday disclosed that they had "selected the best possible and responsive bidder under the Scope of Work for the [CNMI Joint Military Training draft environmental impact statement] Consultant."

Once a deal is finalized, Dentons will have until Aug. 4—the end of the extended comment period on the EIS—to help prepare the CNMI's response to military activity inclusive of the whole leasing of Pagan, the dredging of coral reef on Tinian, and the use of high impact live-fire and bombs on these islands.

US govt calls 7 witnesses in Ada's ongoing trial

The U.S. government called yesterday to the stand seven witnesses in the ongoing jury trial in federal court of Leyda I. Ada, who is accused of conspiring with her husband to perpetrate a health care fraud exceeding \$1.7 million.

Clarice Mendoza, a former employee of First Hawaiian Bank, will resume her testimony today, Tuesday, at 10:30am.

Defense counsel Mark Hanson completed his extensive cross-examination of Mendoza

yesterday afternoon. The prosecution will question Mendoza when trial resumes today.

The prosecution started calling witnesses soon after assistant U.S. attorney Garth Backe and defense counsel Mark Hanson gave their opening statements.

Shown with bank documents, Mendoza said Ada opened a business savings account at FHB in the name of "Leyda I. Ada dba, MMS, CNMI" in the amount of \$9,661.50 on Oct. 1, 2014.

The then-FHB employee said that Ada provided her, among other documents, a sole proprietorship business license.

Mendoza said Melvin, the husband of Ada, was just a signatory in Ada's account.

Defense attorney Mark Hanson repeatedly asked Mendoza if she remembers whether Ada or both couple were present in the bank when the account was opened.

The witness said she's sure they were there.

Mendoza also stated that, based on the signature card, she was sure that Ada was present.

Mendoza also stated that she did not recall telling an FBI agent and a defense investigator that she does not recall seeing the couple in the bank when the account was opened.

The witness agreed with Hanson that at the time she had not heard that Melvin was stealing close to \$2 million from the CNMI government.

Ada was employed by Midwest Medical Supply as an account manager until January 2009. The Commonwealth Health Center regularly purchased medical supplies and equipment from MMS—A Medical Supply Company based in Missouri, which also did business as Midwest Medical Supply Company Inc. and Midwest Medical Supply Company LLC (Midwest Medical Supply).

The prosecution alleged that

between 2004 and 2011, Ada's husband, Melvin, deposited 53 CNMI Treasury checks made out to "MMS—A Medical Supply Co. CNMI" or "Midwest Medical Supply Co. Inc." into Ada's FHB account approximately in the amount of \$1.7 million that he had unlawfully procured through the submission of false and fabricated documents at CHC.

Ada is facing three charges: conspiracy to commit laundering, money laundering, and perjury.

Melvin Ada has already pleaded guilty and is awaiting sentencing. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

CUC says a construction company's \$904,619 claim belongs to NMI govt

By DENNIS B. CHAN
dennis_chan@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utility Corp. will defer a construction company's \$904,619 claim to the Attorney General's Office, explaining that the original contract was with the local government and not the utilities company.

In May, TM Corp., through a representative, addressed the CUC board on what they say was a lack of compensation for a wastewater project that has been completed for years. The company said this has been on CUC's backlog since 2001.

The board had tasked management to "get into the files" to

verify if this claim is accurate.

However, after board meeting on Friday, CUC board chair Adelina Roberto explained that the appropriate authority for this claim was the OAG "because the contract is with the government, not with CUC."

"So that's why we are referring it back to the appropriate authority," she added.

During the meeting, board member David Sablan motioned to defer TM Corp. to the attorney general for disposition on the matter.

Counsel James Sirok suggested that CUC send a transmittal letter to the OAG, with TM Corp. copied to the letter.

Roberto agreed, saying, "We don't want to leave it not answered at all."

The board approved Sablan's motion.

Last month, former senator Pete

Reyes told the board of TM Corp's plight with this lack of compensation. Reyes, who was speaking on behalf of the firm's president, Jae Buk Yoon, said the industrial company has not been successful in

their multiple attempts to be compensated for their work.

Because of the lack of payment, T.M. Corp. could not continue and has since closed down since majority of their assets

are tied to this project, Reyes said. The company's president, a U.S. permanent resident and father of two, had no alternative but to close down, he said.

Executive director Alan Fletcher on Friday said the last time the company brought the claim before CUC was in 2007.

Mother seeks police help after son broke items in their house

A mother sought the police's help after her son, who she believed was under the influence of methamphetamine or "ice," started screaming and breaking things inside their house in Dandan when she gave him only \$5 instead of the \$20 he was asking for on Friday at noon.

J.T. Juan Taitano, 22, was arrested for criminal mischief and disturbing the peace. His bail was set yesterday at \$1,000 cash. Preliminary hearing is on June 17 at 9am.

Assistant public defender Matthew Meyer was appointed as counsel for Taitano. Assistant attorney general Barbara Cepeda appeared for the government.

Police detective Daniel T. Kintol stated in his report that two police officers responded to a house in Dandan on Friday at noon after Taitano's mother called for police assistance because she was afraid that her son might hurt someone.

Kintol said police learned that the mother had asked Taitano

earlier that day to clear the overgrown vegetation by the orchids outside their home.

Taitano was reportedly doing fine until a vehicle bearing a government license plate arrived at the house. Taitano approached the vehicle and then went to his mother to ask for \$20. The mother gave him only \$5.

Taitano allegedly got mad and yelled at his mother to keep the money. He then walked back to the area he was clearing and started breaking the orchids. Taitano then entered the house and threw and damaged some items.

The mother got scared because she believed her son was under the influence of "ice." She believed the person in the vehicle had influenced her son.

The mother said Taitano's behavior changed dramatically since he started hanging out with drug users.

The mother said there were similar incidents in the past, but she never called the police because he is her son. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

France to host Pacific summit

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (RNZI/PIR)—The French prime minister, Manuel Valls, has invited the leaders of Pacific Island countries to a summit in Paris at the end of this year to coincide with the COP21 climate conference.

The summit is aimed to strengthen ties and help the French territories integrate into the region, notably to become full members of the Pacific Islands Forum.

France has so far hosted three

summits with Pacific leaders: two chaired by President Jacques Chirac in 2003 and 2006 and one, in 2009, by the then-foreign minister Bernard Kouchner.

The Paris summit is also to raise climate change challenges which were highlighted last year when the French president, Francois Hollande, visited New Caledonia.

Valls has also announced that he plans to visit New Caledonia, but has given no date.

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Volunteers meet to sustain animal care initiative



FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
Humane Society International policy coordinator Inga Gibson and lead volunteer coordinator Jason Hudy head the animal volunteer meeting held at the Animal Shelter of the Saipan Mayor's Office in Lower Base. Also present at the meeting was Dog Control Program manager Spencer Marchadesch.

By **FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA**
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REPORTER

After a successful spay/neuter clinic a couple of weeks ago, the first formal orientation and meeting for volunteers who want to continue helping take care of animals at the Saipan

Mayor's Office dog shelter was held over the weekend.

More than 40 volunteers attended the meetings held Saturday and Sunday in Lower Base.

Humane Society International policy coordinator Inga Gibson headed the meeting, together with lead volunteer

coordinator Jason Hudy. Dog control program manager Spencer Marchadesch of the Saipan Mayor's Office was also present.

"This is the start of a program that we hope will continue to run," Gibson said.

The meeting targeted four

areas: adoption, foster care, shelter, and outreach. They also talked about holding fundraising events to be able to further facilitate and make the shelter comfortable for the animals.

Supporting the legislation for animal protection, House Bill 1955, also known as the Animal Protection Act of 2015, was also discussed.

"Saipan is one of the few places left in the country that doesn't have any animal cruelty laws," Gibson said, "That's another way to get people involved. Maybe they don't want to work directly with the animals but they can help us at some of our special events or

come to the Legislature and testify and support."

"Without people of Saipan interested, the program won't sustain the momentum. We've seen a great deal of volunteer work done already in the last month since this started, and want to keep everything moving forward," Hudy said.

Starting tomorrow, June 10, the shelter will be open to volunteers who want to visit the

animals at the shelter as well as those who may want to take them out for a walk or exercise and play with them. It will be open from 9am to 11:30am and 4pm to 6pm every day. Prospective volunteers should contact Marchadesch at 234-6208 or Hudy at 789-9464.

Interested individuals may also check out the Saipan Cares for Animals page on Facebook for more information.

Man'amkó King and Queen Coronation marks end of Older American's Month

By **FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA**
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REPORTER

The Saipan Seniors Advisory Council crowned their new *Man'amkó* King and Queen to cap the celebration of Older American's Month in May.

Hailed king for this year was Diego Pua, while Minerva Maghanoy was crowned queen.

Maghanoy said she joined the annual pageant to help and give back to the *man'amkó*.

"I've been in the *man'amkó* for the last two years so it's just but fitting to give back," Minerva said. "I am grateful to all who supported the 2015 *Man'amkó* King and Queen Fundraising."

Pua hopes to further help the *man'amkó* with various activities.

"I really want to help them. I want the *man'amkó* to be healthy. My responsibility as king now is to do activities that will help them," Pua said.

Winners were based on sales of raffle tickets that help fund the *man'amkó's* activities.

SSAC president Maria Salinas was happy with the turnout of the event.

"This is the best ever activity for the *man'amkó*. Everybody's

heart was in this," Salinas said.

"We have our [new] royal court, the outgoing royal court, so we all got together and we had a big, big, big fun," she added.

The coronation ball at the Pacific Islands Club Saipan last May 30 served as the culmination of the monthlong celebration. However, for Aging Director Walter Manglona, honoring the *man'amkó* should continue.

"Older Americans Month mainly focuses on just being able to honor the senior citizens, but it should not end just because Older Americans Month is over," Manglona said. "That should continue all the time. We encourage everybody to continue to respect the elderly and to also get them involved in the community."

Man threatens to cut wife's throat

A man accused his common-law wife of having an affair and allegedly threatened to cut her throat at their home in Koblerville Housing on Friday night.

Eric James Fitial Santos, 29, was arrested for assault and disturbing the peace. His bail was set yesterday at \$2,000 cash. Preliminary hearing is on June 15 at 9am.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho appointed assistant public defender Matthew Meyer as counsel for Santos. Assistant attorney general Barbara Cepeda appeared for the government.

Police detective Maverick Saures stated in his report that the alleged victim, her mother, and Santos were drinking beer in their garage Friday night when Santos and the alleged victim began arguing.

He allegedly threatened to cut her throat and, when the mother of the alleged victim tried to intervene, Santos allegedly threatened to beat her up and told her to leave their house. The alleged victim told her son to call the police.

The night before, Santos allegedly accused his common-law wife of having an affair with a relative.

Last January, Santos allegedly punched the victim in the face, breaking her nose. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

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Associates degree in Journalism, Creative Writing, English, or any related course. At least 8 years progressive journalism and newspaper management experience with a strong story evaluation and production background. Must have rigorous proofreading skills and able to meet tight deadlines. Knows how to use InDesign or Quark Express and must be adept in the various technical aspects of newspaper publishing.

Reporter (2)
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Sports Reporter
Associates degree in Journalism, Creative Writing, English or any related course; At least 2 years experience in sports writing. Above average writing skills, with strong grasp of grammar and syntax. Must be able to write stories based on score sheets. Can work fast within deadlines and in a stressful environment. Fast learner, self-starter, and a team player. Must be able to work on holidays, weekends, late nights, and on a short notice. Must be computer literate and have photography skills. Must have own reliable transportation.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at Saipan Tribune, Inc. Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan or e-mail it to hr_recruitment@tanholdings.com. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Tuesday, June 16, 2015.

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

AmeriCorps students and tutors pose for a photo with Marianas Young Professionals members and Tasi Watch Rangers after planting trees at Hopwood Junior High School on Monday.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

AmeriCorps students plant trees during Monday's community service project.

AmeriCorps and MYPros plant trees at Hopwood

The AmeriCorps program at Hopwood Junior High School teamed up with the Marianas Young Professionals on Monday afternoon to beautify the middle school campus. AmeriCorps tutors and students, together with the MYPros members, planted over 20 flame trees, palm trees, and other plants at the school's soccer field.

According to Social Studies teacher and AmeriCorps site supervisor Jackie Echon, the field is used for a plethora of community events such as the Marianas March Against Cancer and sports tournaments. AmeriCorps tutors Eimee Quilala, Melony David, and Thomas Manglona hope that the trees will provide much needed shade for spectators in the future.

Participating MYPros members include MINA's Becky Ada Furey, BECQ's Jihan Bunniag, MINA volunteer Myla Capilitan, and organization vice president Nola Hix. Tasi Watch rangers Julius Roland and Wayne Dawe provided the organization's assistance in planting the trees.

The Department of Agriculture provided the trees that were planted. Monday's event is one

of many community service projects that AmeriCorps members conduct during the school year. *(HJHS-AmeriCorps)*



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AFTER FAILING TO INFORM HIM OF JOB PROTECTIONS

Staples to pay fired employee \$275K

»Labor alleged that Staples failed to comply with Family and Medical Leave Act

COLUMBIA, S.C.—Jeffrey Angstadt didn't want days off to relax. In September 2010 and over the months that followed, the furniture sales executive told his employer, Staples Contract and Commercial, Inc., a subsidiary of Staples, Inc., that he needed to take leave to care for his critically ill wife. While Angstadt was eligible for federal workplace protections for those coping with the illness of a fam-

ily member, no one at Staples notified him as the law requires.

For the next two years, Angstadt used his personal, sick and vacation days, and worked remotely as needed to balance his work obligations and to care for his wife.

In January 2012, his supervisors decided Angstadt wasn't meeting his job responsibilities, and the company fired him. Angstadt found himself without

an income and critical health benefits when both were needed the most. Two months later, an investigation began by the U.S. Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division district office in Columbia.

Following the investigation, the department then sued Staples in June 2013 for violating the Family and Medical Leave Act in its failure to inform Angstadt of his rights.

As part of a settlement agreement reached with Staples Inc. and Staples Contract and Commercial Inc., the Staples defendants have agreed to pay Angstadt \$137,500 in lost wages and benefits, plus an equal

TIMELINE OF KEY EVENTS

March 2007: Angstadt starts work as market manager for Corporate Express in Miami.

July 2008: Staples purchases Corporate Express. Angstadt continues work as market manager for Staples.

March 2009: Angstadt transferred to Staples Contract and Commercial's Columbia office.

September 2010: Angstadt first informed Staples of his desire to take leave to care for wife.

March 2011: Angstadt selected as a furniture sales executive.

January 2012: Angstadt is fired.

March 2012: Wage and Hour Division begins investigation.

June 2013: Labor Department files suit in U.S. District Court for District of South Carolina.

May 2015: District Court approves consent decree with the parties' settlement agreement.

The case was litigated by the department's Regional Office of the Solicitor in Atlanta.

Staples Contract and Commercial, Inc. offers business supplies to Fortune 1000 organizations as a subsidiary of Staples, Inc.

An employer is prohibited from interfering with, restraining or denying the exercise of, or the attempt to exercise, any FMLA right. Prohibited conduct includes failing to notify an employee of his or her rights under the FMLA when aware that the employee is taking FMLA-qualifying leave. Information on the FMLA is available on the Wage and Hour Division's website at <http://www.dol.gov/whd/fmla/index.htm>.

amount in liquidated damages. The agreement was reached in a consent decree approved by a federal court.

"When an employee must be away from work to care for a loved one, there are no second chances to get it right,"

said Wage and Hour Division Administrator Dr. David Weil. "For more than 20 years, the Family and Medical Leave Act has been a critical safety net for working families. It ensures that no one should have to choose between the job they need and the family they love."

"This case shows the department's strong commitment to that principle, and our intention to use all enforcement tools at our disposal, including litigation, to uphold FMLA protections for workers and make sure that all employers operate in compliance with the law and get it right the first time," added Weil.

Angstadt's wife died in 2014.

As a part of the settlement, the company will also promote an enterprise-wide policy for compliance with the FMLA by providing training for human resources and other managerial personnel with respect to FMLA notice and eligibility requirements; post FMLA enforcement posters in the workplace; and investigate and respond to complaints of potential FMLA violations concerning an employee's notice of FMLA rights, including correcting violations when discovered. (USDOL)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

WINNING PHOTO

Pacifica Insurance Underwriters Inc.'s Hashtag Choose My Picture winning photo entry No. 1 is from Instagrammer Malysa Castro as @maalyboo with caption "We got yo back, CNMI!" Winner will be entitled to a free pizza. Pacifica welcomes anyone from the CNMI to tag an infinite amount of photos and videos through Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter the following in order to be eligible: #choosemyvideo; #pacificainsurance and #restassured. For further details log on to www.pacificains.com/choosemypicture.

JKPL summer program launched with theme 'Every Hero Has a Story'

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library, the CNMI's state library, will be having a summer library program with the theme "Every Hero Has a Story."

The 2015 Collaborative Summer Library Program will focus on everyday heroes in the community.

"Readers of all ages will explore and learn about community heroes such as firefighters, police officers, teachers, and park rangers this summer," associate librarian Erlinda Naputi said.

Program activities will include Reading with Rangers, read aloud, group games, physical challenges, art projects, science and engineering experiments, independent reading challenge and special guest readers.

The program is open to chil-

dren ages 6 to 12.

Registration for "Every Hero Has a Story" begins on Saturday, June 13, and lasts until June 19.

Registration is required as seats are limited and a child who wants to join must have a valid JKPL card with no pending fees and fines.

"The library relies on the generosity of local businesses, government agencies and would like to thank all our sponsors for their continued support," Naputi added.

Sponsors this year are 360 Restaurant, Aqua Resort Club, Bestseller, Bridge Capital, Chong's Corp., CNMI Books, Coca Cola of Saipan, D&Q, Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan, Horizons, Hyatt Regency Saipan, IP&E, Island Apparel, JCT Enterprise, JETS Group of Company, Kanoa Resort, LaoLao

Bay Golf & Resort, Liberty Plaza, Lollipops, McDonald's of Saipan, Megabyte, Modern Stationary, National Office Supply, Pacific Islands Club, Pacific Subsea, Subway, Taco KFC, Transamerica, Saipan World Resort, SandCastle, Public School System, AmeriCorps, American Memorial Park, DFEMS, HPO, Department of Homeland Security & Emergency Management, CNMI Humanities Motherhead Program, and IMLS.

For more information, call the library at 235-7322/ 7323/ 7316 or visit their website, www.marianaslibrary.org. Interested participants may also visit the library during its regular hours: Tuesdays to Fridays from 10am to 6pm and Saturdays from 9am to 4 pm. (Frauline S. Villanueva)

Peace Corps trainees arrive in Pohnpei

KOLONIA, Pohnpei—A new group of Peace Corps trainees, group M81, arrived in Pohnpei on Thursday, June 4. The 19 volunteers were excited to arrive and are ready to learn about serving in the FSM. They will serve for two years as Teaching English as Second Language (TESL) teachers in elementary schools across FSM and Palau. Their mission is to build capacity and transfer skills to local teachers and students.

The M81 group will stay in Pohnpei for 10 weeks for their Pre-Service Training in preparation for placement in their assigned schools. PST will be

held at Pohnpei Agriculture and Trade School in Madolenihmw, where the trainees will undergo intensive training sessions in TESL, language, cross-culture, medical, safety, and security to prepare themselves for working and living as Peace Corps volunteers in FSM.

In mid-August, they will be sworn in and placed in their permanent sites. (U.S. Embassy Kolonia)

The new Peace Corps trainees are ready for fun after arriving at the Pohnpei airport.

U.S. EMBASSY



Guam lesbian couple to apply for marriage application

HAGATNA, Guam (AP)—A lesbian couple who filed a lawsuit to lift the ban on same-sex marriage on Guam will file a marriage application Tuesday.

Twenty-eight-year-old Loretta M. Pangelinan and 29-year-old Kathleen M. Aguero plan to marry June 20.

Their attorney, R. Todd Thompson, says the couple

could apply for their marriage license sooner if allowed.

Chief Judge Frances M. Tydingco-Gatewood on Friday gave the territorial registrar and the governor a day or two to get

their affairs in order and to begin taking marriage license applications at 8 a.m. Tuesday.

The Office of Vital Statistics is where marriage licenses are issued.

Territorial Legislature Vice Speaker B.J. Cruz said that he and Speaker Judith Won Pat “are willing to officiate” at the wedding of Pangelinan and Aguero.

Public Health director James Gillan told the AP that he could officiate over the marriage, if asked, and would also “allow for expedited processing pursuant to the law.”

Japanese media to feature NMI

Seven Japanese media outlets are preparing television, magazine and other coverage of the Northern Marianas for publication over the next several months following familiarization tours in May.

“May was a very strong month for media FAM tours from Japan, partly due to annual World War II memorial services. As a result, we’re looking forward to a series of ad exposures for the North-

ern Marianas over the next few months,” said Marianas Visitors Authority marketing manager Bruce Bateman. “FAM tours continue to be one of our best returns on investment. In this case, we will be receiving around \$1 million worth of exposure for our assistance with filming, permitting, and other modest cost support for these groups.”

The coverage commences with *Sesame*, a bimonthly mag-

azine focusing on child trends and lifestyle. The magazine released an 8-page feature on Saipan on June 7, 2015, featuring a popular child model. Activities to be featured include Managaha adventures for children, spa and relaxation for mothers, and cultural experiences. The feature will also introduce the MVA’s Happy Children in Paradise campaign.

Japanese model/actor Tetsuya Sugaya shot for his 80-page photo book with interview magazine *JUNON* for a July 24, 2015, feature.

Seventy-nine-year-old Mitsuko Miyazato, an Okinawan resident of Saipan in her childhood, will be featured by RBC The News!, a daily news program of Ryukyu Broadcasting Corp. in Okinawa. The story covers the 46th memorial tour to the Northern Marianas from Okinawa and will air in late

June 2015. The Micronesian Repatriation Association’s memorial tour will also be featured by OTV Super News on Okinawa Television.

The visit of Buddhist group, Nenpou Shinkyu, was documented by filming a 30-minute program to air in August 2015. The group visits annually to conduct World War II memorial services in the Northern Marianas and has built several memorials on Saipan.

Two female reporters filmed

activities including food and shopping for a one-time, 8-minute special by Nagasaki International Broadcasting, Inc. The program will air in September 2015 to an estimated 1.4-million households.

First Impression also spent a week filming with female models for a promotional DVD and magazine feature about the Northern Marianas. The production focuses on Saipan’s beaches and other tourist sites. (MVA)

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Pediatric CPR/AED with first aid training

The American Red Cross will hold a Pediatric CPR/AED with first aid training on June 27, 2015, from 10am to 3pm at the NMI Chapter Office. Please call the chapter office at 234-3459 for more information. (ARC)

Survivors and caregivers support meeting on Thursday

All people facing cancer, their family members, and caregivers are invited to the next Commonwealth Cancer Association monthly support meeting scheduled for Thursday, June 11, 2015, starting at 5:30pm at the Hyatt Regency Saipan’s Chamolinian Room. Guest speaker will be Dr. Tiffany Lin, MD, department chair of Pediatrics/UCSF Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Fellow, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. Topic: “Survivorship guidelines for survivors of cancer: How to take care of your health if you have survived cancer and gotten chemotherapy, radiation therapy, or surgery for your cancer.” To RSVP or for more

information, call the CCA at 682-0050 or email at ccamarianas@gmail.com or cca@ccamarianas.org. (CCA)

CCA board meeting on June 16

The Commonwealth Cancer Association’s board of directors will be holding its regular meeting on Tuesday, June 16, 2015, at 3pm at the CCA conference room. Agenda includes reports from the president and program updates. All board meetings are open to the public. For more information, contact the CCA at 682-0050 or email at cca@ccamarianas.org. (CCA)

Navy, Air Force training at FDM, Warning Area 517

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. Navy and U.S. Air Force will conduct training at the island of Farallon de Medinilla on June 9-10, from 10am to 11:55pm. The general public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators—are advised to stay clear from the area during the dates and times indicated. (PR)



BEST SUNSHINE DONATES TO ROTA

The Rota Legislative Delegation led by Senate President Victor Hocog and Rota Mayor Efrain Atalig accepts a donation of 25,000 lbs of rice from Best Sunshine International. Senior vice president Donald Browne represented Best Sunshine at the presentation. “Imperial Pacific International CNMI LLC., and Best Sunshine International are proud to provide assistance to the residents of Rota as they struggle with the aftermath of Typhoon Dolphin,” said Browne. “Our hearts go out to all the residents of Rota as they rebuild their lives.”

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality
Division of Coastal Resources Management
P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315
www.crm.gov.mp

PUBLIC NOTICE of the DCRM AGENCY OFFICIALS MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Ralph DLG. Torres through the Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) hereby give notice that a DCRM Agency Officials Special Meeting will be held on Thursday, June 25, 2015, at 10:30 AM at the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality conference room, Suite 205, Gualo Rai Center, Lower Gualo Rai, Saipan.

AGENDA

- I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
 - a) Call to Order
 - b) Roll Call
 - c) Adoption of May 28, 2015 Meeting Minutes
- II. PERMIT APPLICATION
 - A. Saipan International Real Estate Development Corp., Ltd.
 1. Ocean Vista Resort (SMS-2015-X-010)
 - a. Discussion by DCRM Agency Officials
 - b. Permit Application Determination
- III. OTHER MATTERS
- IV. ADJOURNMENT

Hawaiian Escape at Hyatt Regency Saipan

In celebration of unique cultures and heritage, Hyatt Regency Saipan will showcase a two-night “Hawaiian Escape” dinner buffet on June 12 and 13, 2015, at Kili Cafe and Terrace. The Hawaiian-inspired feast will feature lomi-lomi salmon, seafood poke, kalua pork, and other Hawaiian favorites.

Come dressed for the Hawaiian occasion and get a chance to win Sunday Brunch for two!

Don’t miss this island culinary and cultural experience.

Hawaiian Escape dinner buffet is from 6pm to 9pm. Price is at \$55 per person and Club at the Hyatt members are welcome. The dinner buffet is inclusive of a pineapple vodka welcome drink, free-flowing beer, and ice tea. Reservations are highly recommended. For more information, call +1 670 234 1234 Ext. 26. (Hyatt)

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy 4th birthday to our “bad to da bone super duper typhoon” Zack Blaze Lifofoi Camacho AND congratulations on completing your first year of Head Start. So blessed to have a one-of-A-kind son like you. Love from Mommy, Daddy and your three brothers.

Office of the Mayor
Municipality of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
P.O. Box 501457 Saipan, MP 96950 • Ladera Center Building, Beach Road
Tel: (670) 234-6208 • Fax: (670) 234-1190

INVITATION TO BID (ITB NO. 15-001)

Pursuant to Municipal Ordinance No. 55, codified at 6 Saipan Municipal Code (SMC) 31, Chapter 4, the Honorable David M. Apatang, Mayor, Municipality of Saipan, is issuing this Notice of Invitation to Bid for the operation of a sole bingo license in the Municipality of Saipan. The term of the sole bingo license shall be for a period of one year from the date it is issued. 6 SMC § 25.

The minimum bid for the sole bingo license shall be United States Dollars \$1,000.00. 6 SMC § 33 (2). (Minimum bid). The successful bidder must pay the bid amount no later than twenty-four hours following bid award.

A non-refundable bid fee of USD\$100.00 must accompany each bid. Bids received without the non-refundable bid fee shall be rejected and shall not be considered. The bid fee must be in the form of United States Currency, United States Postal Express Money Order, or Bank Cashier’s Check. Checks must be made payable to the “Commonwealth Treasury” and have the notation “For Deposit to Business Unit 3067.” The bid fee is non-refundable. Personal or business checks will not be accepted.

A bid must be submitted on a Bid Application Form. A Bid Application Form is available at the Office of the Mayor of Saipan, second floor in the Ladera Center Building, on Beach Road in Oleia, Saipan. Interested bidders may pick up a form during regular government working hours, i.e., 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday – Friday, except on government holidays. Any bid submitted on a form other than that provided by the Office of the Mayor of Saipan will be rejected and not considered.

A bid must be sealed and submitted to the Office of the Mayor of Saipan at the above-stated address, no later than 3:30 p.m. on June 24, 2015. No bids will be accepted after 3:30 p.m. on June 24, 2015. All bids will be publicly opened and announced at 10:00 a.m. on June 25, 2015, at the Office of the Mayor of Saipan, at the above-stated physical address. All dates and time indicated on this ITB are CNMI local dates and time.

The Office of the Mayor of Saipan reserves the right to reject any and all bids if to do so is in the best interest of the Municipality of Saipan.

A bidder must be a U.S. citizen, must possess a current CNMI business license, possess a CNMI-issued tax identification number, must have current CNMI mailing and physical address, must be able to provide proof of no criminal conviction, must be able to provide documents of incorporation in the CNMI, including the documents listed in this paragraph, etc.

For information, please visit the Office of the Mayor of Saipan or call 234-6208 during regular government working hours, i.e., 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday – Friday, except on government holidays.

/s/David M. Apatang
Mayor, Municipality of Saipan

Opinion

Hafa Adair!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXV, Issue No. 113Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
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AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

The Chamolinian divide

The divide is deeper than the Marianas Trench. There is historic animosity in some quarters, restrained and inclusive in others, as indigenes are now the minority in the Marianas. Guam is overwhelmed by the U.S. military after the island became a Navy coaling station, and descendants of Pinoy and Latino “criminals” in Spain’s penal colony decided to remain, while the NMI is inundated by foreign CWs employed after the garment industries of the ’90s.

With the excavations in Garapan of burial grounds, the Chamorro and Carolinian divide has emerged again.

Chamorros once claimed that betel-nut-stained bones are of Carolinian descent; Chamorros did not chew the nut, it was booted, a silent put down on the sea-faring navigators who were known to sharpen their senses with the nut chewing so they can concentrate on their journey in the open seas.

Let us clarify “betel nut.” It is actually areca seed abundant in the tropics chewed with tobacco and lime wrapped in a leaf of the betel vine. The resulting taste is bitter and spicy, sweet and salty, pungent and astringent. It is consumed to expel wind, kill worms, subdue bad odors, colorize the mouth, remove phlegm, induce intestinal purification, and kindle passion. Alkaloid Arecoline is a product of betel chewing that causes alertness, increases stamina, salivates the mouth, stimulates appetite, aids digestion, and induces a sense of euphoria. Its stimulating effect on the central nervous system is similar to caffeine and nicotine.

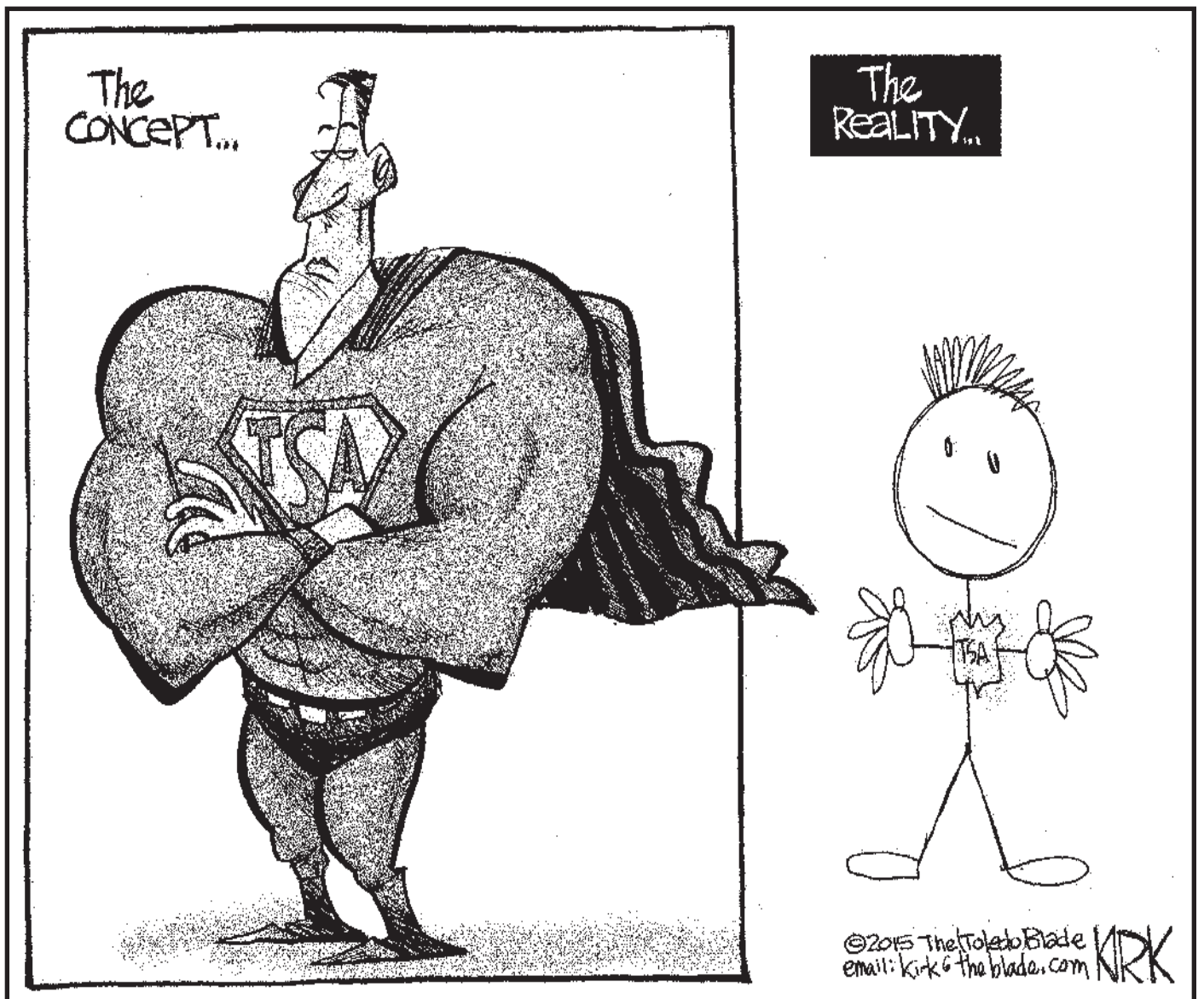
Europeans thought chewing betel nut was just an unaesthetic habit of the indigenes and the Chamorros allegedly denied being engaged in the habit to measure up to the image of the civilized citizen. Bones getting found in the Garapan casino site include stained ones, and suddenly, the claim of Chamorro bones, to the exclusion of betel nut chewing Carolinians, is being lauded.

On the practice of chewing today, there are Chamorros who engage in betel nut masticating too, some in responsible governmental positions that are cognizant of the health and aesthetic implications of the habit. The one-up-manship that once defined the Chamolinian divide using betel nut chewing to inaccurately measure social status is, at best, chauvinistic. The excavation brings the cultural prejudice out in the open.

Addiction to anything that affects the central nervous system is a human scourge known since the dawn of human civilization. Opium, ganja, ginseng, tea, coffee, and other natural stimulants have been used and abused. Chemical and electric stimulants are now intentionally being produced in laboratories and studios. The addiction to arcades has no corner on anyone and methamphetamines consumption is a global scourge, the NMI sharing a higher percentage than most.

There is the Chamorro/Carolinian divide for which the term “Chamolinian” was coined to unify. We celebrate *vive le difference* in all its splendor. In the sanctity of ancestral grounds, a field of cooperation and union rather than contention and conflict is called for, to be honored at all cost. Let’s chew on that!

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Let’s consider alternatives to the dysfunctional TSA

Even the most cynical critics of the Transportation Security Administration, perhaps the most unpopular organization in the U.S. government, must have been surprised by the recent revelations. According to a leaked internal report, TSA Red Team members, whose job is to test performance, were able to get past security with their hidden weapons on 67 out of 70 occasions, or 95 percent of the time.

The shock of this leak has caused a ruckus inside the Beltway. The TSA’s acting director has been “reassigned” — a rare step for an administration that has difficulty firing anyone for anything. If you’re asking why the TSA exists at all right now, you’re not alone. With the domestic surveillance component of the Patriot Act having been scaled back, it’s worth pondering whether the TSA, another post-9/11 creation, needs to be mended, or perhaps even ended.

Many regular travelers are irritated by the TSA. They may wonder why they have to remove their shoes and belts and liquids and march through scanners even if it’s obvious they pose no threat. I’ve never seen a nun getting a pat-down, but I, like most frequent fliers, have witnessed annoying TSA silliness on multiple occasions. And I have been subjected to interrogation by TSA officials while traveling for the U.S. government, carrying a diplomatic passport, even as foreigners who looked like extras in a B-movie about al-Qaida went on their way, unquestioned.

Hardly any of the TSA’s rules have to do with real airline security. As a professional in the counter-terrorism field, I watch TSA inspectors doing their job and mostly shake my head. “This is not an airline security system,” opined the former head of security for El Al, an Israeli airline, about the TSA: “This is a system for bothering people.” In comparison with the airline security programs of many close U.S. allies in Europe and the Middle East, who were grappling with the threat of terrorism long before 9/11, TSA efforts appear comical and ineffective in equal measure.

It would be one thing if the TSA were irritating passengers and, simultaneously, keeping them safe. But the new leak suggests that it’s only proficient at the former, and that it’s therefore a giant waste of taxpayer dollars.

Much TSA dysfunction can be attributed to its devotion to technology as a panacea, which is a very American trait. Skeptics often note that we need to become more like Israel, meaning we need to embrace profiling—not the latest machines—as the main factor in detecting threats to airliners. Although there is something to this, and the TSA certainly can use more profiling in how it assesses threats, there is no way that little Israel’s airline security system can be templated onto our vast, continent-wide airline travel system. The Israeli method does not scale.

By **JOHN R. SCHINDLER**
Los Angeles Times

John R. Schindler is a security consultant and a former National Security Agency counter-intelligence officer. He wrote this for the Los Angeles Times.



Reform is absolutely necessary. Ending the TSA altogether and starting over with a new and improved agency needs to be on the table too. A lot of money and time have been wasted since 9/11 on improving the security of American civil aviation, and much remains to be done, as the terrorists are evolving and learning. I’ve given dozens of talks on terrorism over the years, and the only line that is guaranteed applause from any audience is complaining about the TSA. Taxpayers deserve better security with less hassle.

But I’d feel remiss if I didn’t note that there’s something dangerous about the way the TSA’s dysfunction came to light: an unauthorized leak.

Most of the things that fans of Edward Snowden believe about the National Security Agency — that it’s callous toward citizens, capricious in its authorities and insufficiently respectful of rights — can be more plausibly said to be true about the TSA. Nevertheless, every leak carries risks. Do we really want terrorists, who still exist and remain highly interested in blowing up Western airliners, to know exactly how ineffective the TSA actually is?

As the security expert Bruce Schneier wrote on his blog, “airport security doesn’t have to be 100 percent effective in detecting guns and bombs,” it just needs to be good enough to deter terrorists who believe there’s a decent chance of getting caught. But a “95 percent failure rate is bad, because you can build a plot around sneaking something past the TSA.”

Careless publication of harmful leaks is on the rise and will have consequences. Two months ago, the online magazine the Intercept, whose main job appears to be exposing Western secrets, published a checklist of exactly what TSA screeners are looking for to find terrorists trying to board airliners. Calling that story reckless is kind, since what benefit is there to letting the world know this information? Terrorists have learned from the Snowden leaks how Western intelligence is trying to find them—that impact has already been felt by Western counter-terrorist services—and now they know exactly what the TSA is looking for too.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

US was state sponsor of terror against Cuba

On May 29, the United States removed Cuba from the list of “state sponsors of terrorism” as one more step toward normalization of relations between the two countries. But, historically, it is the United States that has sponsored terrorism against Cuba.

The U.S. designation of Cuba as a state sponsor of terror dates back to the early 1980s due to Cuban support of guerrilla movements in Central America. The label was ironic, since the United States engaged in a program of extralegal paramilitary operations as part of failed attempts at Cuban regime change all through the early 1960s. These efforts included the Bay of Pigs invasion, scores of assassination attempts against Cuban leaders and years of covert operations.

The intent was to bring about the collapse of the Cuban government, the CIA explained in 1963, through a “strategy of economic strangulation to weaken and undermine the regime.”

One planned operation, the CIA detailed, was designed to “conduct major sabotage operations targets against Cuban industry and public utilities.” Another CIA project included “the contamination of fuels and lubricants,” as well as “the introduction of foreign material into moving parts of machinery.”

The Department of Defense similarly designed projects to “accomplish the objective of economic harassment.” One plan specifically directed that “fuel and food supplies should

be sabotaged,” while another directive prescribed “major acts of sabotage on shipping destined for Cuba and on key installations in Cuba.”

The United States especially targeted sugar production, Cuba’s principal source of foreign exchange. Covert operations involved planned arson of cane fields, sabotage of sugar machinery, and acts of chemical warfare, including the spreading of chemicals in sugarcane fields to sicken Cuban cane cutters.

In one instance, the Defense Department contemplated military exercises made to appear as preparations for a U.S. invasion, to be timed with the sugar harvest to force Cuba to mobilize the civilian militia and divert vast numbers of workers away from the harvest. Alexander Haig, secretary of state under President Reagan, later acknowledged the organization of three or four “major operations” against Cuba every month during the 1960s.

The Handbook of International Law defines state-sponsored terrorism as the act “of a state sheltering, training, financing or supplying arms to enable terrorists, often foreign, to attack another state or its nationals.” U.S. covert operations against Cuba during the early 1960s would most assuredly rise to the level of acts of state-sponsored terrorism.

Writing years later, presidential adviser Richard Goodwin, participant in the planning of covert operations against Cuba under the Kennedy and Johnson administrations, acknowledged that the U.S.

By LOUIS A. PEREZ JR.

Tribune News Service

Louis A. Perez Jr. is the J. Carlyle Sitterson Professor of History and director of the Institute for the Study of the Americas at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He wrote this for Progressive Media Project, a source of liberal commentary on domestic and international issues; it is affiliated with The Progressive magazine.



efforts to overthrow Fidel Castro “included assassination, sabotage of the Cuban economy, guerrilla infiltration—a kind of state-sponsored terrorism.”

It’s tempting to accede to President Barack Obama’s oft-repeated request to look forward, and not back. But it should come as no surprise in the coming months, as Cuba and the United States move closer to normal relations, as both countries begin to exchange claims for reparations for deeds and misdeeds each committed against the other over the past half century, if Cuba were to present to the United States a bill for damages suffered during the early 1960s as a victim of what Goodwin called “a kind of state-sponsored terrorism.”

Encouraging signs for American Muslims

Times are tough for American Muslims, but there are also plenty of reasons to be optimistic.

First, the bad news. Organized bigotry against Muslims continues to thrive.

In Arizona, about 250 protesters recently assembled in front of the Islamic Community Center of Phoenix for a rally designed to intimidate Muslims. Many of the demonstrators came bearing arms.

Jon Ritzheimer, the rally’s organizer, a man who has a fondness for wearing a T-shirt that says “F—k Islam,” told CNN that “true Islam is terrorism” and that “the core values of Islam” are “what I really hate.” He said he organized the protest along with a poorly attended “Draw Muhammad” contest in a gesture of solidarity with an earlier “Draw Muhammad” event in Garland, Texas, that ended when gunmen from Arizona attacked it and were shot dead by police.

The Phoenix mosque is loosely connected to the assault in Texas, since the two assailants, Elton Simpson and Nadir Soofi, had attended services there in the past, though neither man had been to the Phoenix center for months before their heinous act. By staging his protest, Ritzheimer was trying to assign collective blame to all Muslims for the actions of two criminals.

But the good news is what also happened at the rally. About an equal number of counterprotesters came to support the Phoenix Muslim community, brandishing signs that said things like “love is

stronger than hate.”

And then, in a breakthrough moment for peace, Usama Shami, president of the Islamic Center, invited anyone who wanted to join him inside the mosque.

Jason Leger, one of the anti-Islam protesters, was changed by the experience.

“It was something I’ve never seen before,” Leger told the Washington Post. “I took my shoes off. I kneeled. I saw a bunch of peaceful people. We all got along.”

It shows what a strong advocate for peace like Usama Shami can do. Polls indicate that almost two-thirds of Americans have never met a Muslim. Islam is reduced for many to the terrible images we see on TV or hear on the news. But polls also indicate that those who know Muslims personally are more likely to hold positive opinions about Islam.

And the good news continues. The U.S. Supreme Court recently issued a ruling siding with Samantha Elauf, a Muslim woman who wears a hijab, in her employment discrimination lawsuit against Abercrombie & Fitch. In 2008, when she was 17, Elauf had applied for a job with the clothing retailer and was denied employment because her head scarf, which she wears for religious reasons, didn’t conform to the company’s “look policy” of “classic East Coast collegiate style.” (Abercrombie & Fitch has

By MOUSTAFA BAYOUMI

Tribune News Service

Moustafa Bayoumi, a professor of English at Brooklyn College, is author of “This Muslim American Life: Dispatches from the War on Terror,” forthcoming from NYU Press. He wrote this for Progressive Media Project, a source of liberal commentary on domestic and international issues; it is affiliated with The Progressive magazine.



since changed its dress-code policy.)

At the core of this case is the legal concept of “reasonable accommodation.” If companies can reasonably accommodate different people who can do the same job, they cannot refuse to hire them simply because of their differences. Elauf’s victory is important not only for Muslims who wear religious attire but for everyone whose rights are protected under reasonable accommodation, including disabled people and pregnant women.

There is a clear lesson from these examples. We need to foster inclusion. In forging an inclusive union, we not only protect all of our rights, but we simultaneously strengthen our capacity to live together.

Santorum’s wrong—Pope Francis’ environmental teachings are important

Rick Santorum recently spoke with Philadelphia radio host Dom Giordano about Pope Francis and his planned visit to the city in September.

Santorum, the former Pennsylvania senator and current Republican presidential hopeful, praised the pope for “his focus on making sure that we have a healthier society” and said, “I support completely the pope’s call for us to do more to create opportunities for people to be able to rise in society and care for the poor. That’s our obligation as a society.”

If Santorum had left it at that, there would be no problem. Unfortunately, he didn’t.

When asked about the pope’s upcoming encyclical on the environment, Santorum said, “The Church has gotten it wrong a few times on science, and I think we’re probably better off leaving science to the scientists and focus on what we’re really good on, which is theology and morality. When we get involved with political and controversial scientific theories, then I think the Church is probably not as forceful and credible.”

Santorum added that when Catholic bishops “get involved with agriculture policy, or things like that that are really outside the scope of what the Church’s main message is, that we’re better off sticking to things that are really the core teachings of the Church, as opposed to getting involved with every other kind of issue that happens to be popular at the time.”

Being responsible stewards of the planet is not an issue because society currently deems it popular. This focus on the environment will not diminish the way a child loses interest in a long-forgotten favorite toy of yesteryears.

As students of history know, the Catholic Church was promoting

responsible environmental stewardship long before it was deemed cool or popular. Furthermore, the relationship between Catholicism and science has largely been one of cooperation, not conflict.

Whether it be through universities or hospitals, Catholics have been consistently active in advancing the sciences in various fields of study—ranging from Galileo and physics to Mendel and genetics.

The Vatican even has its own scientific research department, called the Pontifical Academy of Sciences. Its stated mission is “to honor pure science wherever it may be found, ensure its freedom, and encourage research for the progress of science.” Throughout its existence—its roots extend to the Academy of the Lynxes, founded in 1603—the academy’s members have won at least 48 Nobel Prizes.

I agree with Santorum that the Church should leave science to scientists. Any rational person should defer to the experts. Furthermore, academic reports from experts should be used by elected officials to make informed, fact-based decisions that benefit the common good.

So what do scientists who study climate change have to say? A report by NASA shows that 97 percent of climate scientists agree the theory of climate change is negatively affecting the planet and that human activity is a leading contributor. Statistically speaking, 97 percent is a consensus, hardly among what Santorum calls “controversial scientific theories.”

Santorum is also correct that the Church has gotten it wrong on science in the past. But the very nature of science allows for mistakes. That’s why there are hypotheses and theories. Scientists who disagree with climate change are obligated to challenge

By STEPHEN SEUFERT

The Philadelphia Inquirer

Stephen Seufert is state director of Keystone Catholics, an online social justice advocacy organization. He wrote this for The Philadelphia Inquirer.



the current theory. Thus far, there has been no compelling countertheory to climate change.

Catholics are called to address the pressing political issues of their time. Why else would Santorum mention his Catholic faith on the campaign trail, if not to influence the political debate? In “The Joy of the Gospel,” an apostolic exhortation, Pope Francis quotes Pope Benedict XVI, declaring, “The Earth is our common home and all of us are brothers and sisters. If indeed ‘the just ordering of society and of the state is a central responsibility of politics,’ the Church ‘cannot and must not remain on the sidelines in the fight for justice.’”

With an encyclical on the environment, Pope Francis would be doing his part to protect and defend a planet we share with current and future generations. Nothing is more Christian or moral than promoting environmentally friendly ideas aimed at uplifting all of humanity. The promotion and protection of life are of paramount concern for Catholics. Therefore, if Rick Santorum is truly a faithful defender and promoter of life, he will come to embrace the teachings of Pope Francis on the environment.

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY

Mostly sunny with isolated showers.
East winds 15 to 20 mph.

▲86° ▼77°

WEDNESDAY

Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
East winds 10 to 15 mph.

▲86° ▼77°

THURSDAY

Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲87° ▼77°

FRIDAY

Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲87° ▼77°

SATURDAY

Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲87° ▼77°

Yesterday's Satellite Image

PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2015

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A tropical upper tropospheric trough curves northeastward from north of Koror and Yap at 9N130E across the Marianas near 13N144E to beyond 25N at 163E. Widely-scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are seen north of Yap and west of Guam to west of Chuuk within 150 miles of a line from 14N137E to 7N150E. Isolated thunderstorms are present southeast of Yap and Koror south of a line from 3N138E to 3N146E. Trade-wind convergence is producing a band of scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms east of Pohnpei and over Kosrae within 120 miles of a line from 7N163E to 2N172E and east of Majuro east of a line from 8N176E to 5N176E. A shear line is generating scattered showers east of Wake Island within 100 miles of a line from 23N180 to 18N169E.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia			
Guam And Rota	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼80
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲89	▼79
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲88	▼80
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲88	▼80
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲88	▼78
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼79
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼81

Around the Globe			
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲64	▼50
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲88	▼67
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲89	▼82
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼72
London	Mostly Cloudy	▲61	▼49
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲87	▼67
Manila	Thunderstorms	▲91	▼79
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲55	▼47
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲87	▼76
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲80	▼67
Osaka	Rain	▲75	▼68
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲70	▼53
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲83	▼62
Rome	Thundershowers	▲82	▼67
Salem	Sunny	▲95	▼60
San Francisco	Fog	▲70	▼54
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲86	▼59
Tokyo	Rain	▲76	▼68
Washington, DC	Thundershowers	▲89	▼73

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
2:06 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet
8:23 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.9 Feet
1:08 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.5 Feet
7:58 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset		
Today	5:47 AM	6:46 PM
Wednesday	5:47 AM	6:47 PM
Thursday	5:47 AM	6:47 PM
Friday	5:47 AM	6:47 PM
Saturday	5:47 AM	6:48 PM

Moonrise/Moonset		
Today		11:46 AM
Wednesday	12:23 AM	12:43 PM
Thursday	1:10 AM	1:40 PM
Friday	1:57 AM	2:37 PM
Saturday	2:45 AM	3:35 PM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

NEWS DESK

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 28, 2015											
DEPARTURES						ARRIVALS					
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)						GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN					
UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily			UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily		
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3			UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3		
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7			UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7		
UA5039	2:15pm	3:55pm	6, 7 via Rota			UA5039	12:55pm	1:45pm	6, 7		
UA5078	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 5			UA5038	1:00pm	2:35pm	2, 4 via Rota		
UA5038	3:05pm	3:55pm	2, 4			UA5077	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 5		
UA5040	6:55pm	7:45pm	1, 5			UA5041	5:35pm	6:25pm	1, 5		
UA5078	8:35pm	9:25pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7			UA5077	7:15pm	8:05pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7		
UA5044	10:40pm	11:30pm	1, 5			UA5043	9:20pm	10:10pm	1, 5		
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)						GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)					
UA5039	2:15pm	2:50pm	6, 7			UA5038	1:00pm	1:35pm	2, 4		
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)						ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN					
UA5039	3:20pm	3:55pm	6, 7			UA5038	2:00pm	2:35pm	2, 4		
SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)						PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN					
DL287	6:05am	1:05am+1	2, 6 via NRT			DL298	4:30am	2:55pm	3, 7 via NRT		
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)						NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN					
DL287	6:05am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 6			DL298	10:25am	2:55pm	Daily		
DL297	4:30pm	7:15pm	Daily			DL288	8:55pm	1:25am+1	3, 4, 5, 7		
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)						SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN					
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1			7C3402	9:30am	3:20pm	1, 2, 4, 7		
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7			7C3402	10:55am	4:25pm	3, 5, 6		
7C3403	4:35am	8:20am	1, 2, 5, 6, 7			OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7		
7C3403	5:25am	9:10am	3, 4			OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6		
7C3401	4:20pm	8:05pm	1, 2, 4, 7			7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily		
7C3401	5:25pm	9:10pm	3, 5, 6								
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)						BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN					
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7			OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6		
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)						SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN					
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7			3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7		
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)						BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN					
MU764	1:30am	5:30am	3, 5, 7			MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6		
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)						GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN					
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6			3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5		
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)						MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN					
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN			DL276/288	9:30am	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT		
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			UA190/5077	9:55am	8:05pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA5070/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM			OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN		
UA5070/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	Daily via GUM			OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
UA5070/183	4:15am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM			PR110/UA5071	10:05pm	7:30am+1	3 via GUM		
UA5070/183	4:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			PR110/UA5071	10:05pm	8:05am+1	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM		
DL287/275	6:05am	9:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6 via NRT			UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM		
UA5068/183	8:00am	9:10pm	3 via GUM			UA184/5039	10:25pm	1:45pm+1	6 via GUM		
UA5068/183	8:40am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM			UA184/5038	10:25pm	2:35pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota		
UA5068/183	8:40am	9:10pm	1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			UA184/5077	10:25pm	2:35pm+1	4, 7 via GUM		
UA5039/183	2:15pm	9:10pm	6, 7 via Rota-GUM			UA184/5041	10:25pm	6:25pm+1	4, 7 via GUM		
UA5038/183	3:05pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM			UA184/5077	10:25pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 6 via GUM		
UA5078/183	3:05pm	8:50pm	5 via GUM			UA184/5043	10:25pm	10:10pm+1	4, 7 via GUM		
UA5078/183	3:05pm	9:10pm	1 via GUM			UA184/5071	11:30pm	7:30am+1	2 via GUM		
UA5038/183	3:05pm	9:10pm	4 via GUM			UA184/5071	11:30pm	8:05am+1	5 via GUM		
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)						HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN					
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN			OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN		
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
UA5070/179	4:15am	9:55pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM			UA180/5071	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM		
UA5068/179	8:00am	9:55pm	3 via GUM			UA180/5039	9:55pm	1:45pm+1	5, 6 via GUM		
UA5068/179	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 5, 6 via GUM			UA180/5077	9:55pm	2:40pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota		
UA5039/179	2:15pm	9:55pm	6 via Rota-GUM			UA180/5077	9:55pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM		
UA5078/179	3:05pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via GUM								

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.											
TINIAN TO SAIPAN			SAIPAN TO TINIAN			SAIPAN TO ROTA					
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY			
7											

Nurturing food security, economic opportunity for remote community

PORT VILA, Vanuatu—Sixty-four households from Divers Bay on the remote island of Ureparapara in Torba Province are enthusiastically cultivating new opportunities to diversify food production and foster economic growth with assistance from the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

“We’ve seen a lot of changes since the project came last year. Since SPC built the copra shed and provided the 10 hot air driers to the community, we’ve been able to produce 60 tons of copra which is worth around 300 thousand Vatu,” the Chief of Divers Bay, David Reuben, said.

“We sold it to a company in Santo and another ship is going to come back again. Before the ship would come maybe once or twice a year because we didn’t have any place to store our copra.”

The new copra venture is part of the regional initiative, Vegetation and Land Cover Mapping and Improving Food Security for building resilience to a changing climate in Pacific Island Communities, currently being implemented in six Pacific Island nations in partnership with the governments and local communities.

It promotes the diversification and sustainability of land-based food production systems through an integrated farming approach that encompasses agro-forestry, crop and livestock diversity, planting material supply as well as pest and disease monitoring and prevention.

OAG seeks 9th Circuit decision on CNMI’s sovereign immunity

Attorney General Edward Manibusan announces that the Office of the Attorney General has appealed the denial of the Commonwealth’s sovereign immunity in the matter of *Christian v. Commonwealth*, to the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

“We are working to restore the Commonwealth’s sovereign immunity and ensure that the federal government respects the people of the Commonwealth,” states the Attorney General. “Without sovereign immunity, the Commonwealth can be called into the courts of another sovereign, such as the United States, and be forced to answer lawsuits originating under federal law,” Manibusan adds.

Presently, except for the Commonwealth, every state, and every territory with a federal court enjoys sovereign immunity.

The Commonwealth’s sovereign immunity was taken away in 1988 pursuant to a decision by the Ninth Circuit. The Court then reasoned that the Commonwealth is not entitled to sovereign immunity because

“What we found when we carried out our assessments on Ureparapara is that food production and diversity is quite low for many reasons including climate related challenges, and around 29 percent of food consumed is imported,” SPC’s Food Security technical officer, Gibson Susumu, explained.

Susumu added, “By providing resilient crop material from SPC, partnering with the community to build the copra shed, nurseries and communal vegetables gardens, plus introducing livestock and training, each household has better access to healthier food alternatives and can also earn some extra income.”

Community involvement and commitment plays an integral role in sustaining the project’s objectives and achievements.

Rosina Ling is part of the Lealorup Women’s Group that is responsible for maintaining the communal vegetable plot in Divers Bay.

“It is important for women to be involved because we feed our families. Planning a backyard garden is new to us but through the training we know how to space our crops, when to plant seasonal crops and compared to the past we now produce a lot more food,” Ling said.

“When the vegetables are harvested we sell some and the leftover we distribute for the families to cook with at home. The money we raise goes back to the group so we can buy seedlings for planting again,” she said.

For more information please visit www.spc.int/rmc. **(SPC)**

the Eleventh Amendment to the Constitution was not expressly applied to the Commonwealth in the Covenant. The United States Supreme Court has since clarified that the Eleventh Amendment is not the source of sovereign immunity. Instead, the states and the territories retain their sovereign immunity because it was not surrendered when the Constitution was ratified, or in the case of the territories, when they joined with the United States.

The appeal will require significant time and effort on behalf of the Office of the Attorney General. However, if successful, the appeal will save the Commonwealth substantial sums of money with its sovereign immunity restored. More importantly, the appeal will restore the dignity and respect due to the people of the Commonwealth by the federal government.

The appeal is being handled by James M. Zarones, who the Attorney General recently appointed as Chief Solicitor for the Office of the Attorney General. **(OAG)**



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 15-022

Opening Date: Thursday, June 04, 2015
Closing Date: Until filled.

Executive Director
LOCATION(S): Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: Based on credentials and specialized experience as a utility executive in a U.S. state, U.S. territory, U.S. commonwealth, and/or the District of Columbia.
CONTRACT: Two-year, subject to renewal.
POSITION(S): One (1).

For minimum requirements and full description, stop by or contact the Human Resource Office.

JVA No. 15-031

Opening Date: Friday, June 05, 2015
Closing Date: Friday, June 19, 2015

Fiscal Assistant
LOCATION: Financial Accounts Section, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: \$16,742.00 per annum.
POSITIONS: Two (2).
CONTRACT: Not Contracted.

For minimum requirements and full description, stop by or contact the Human Resource Office.

JVA No. 15-032

Opening Date: Friday, June 05, 2015
Closing Date: Friday, June 19, 2015

Fiscal Technician
LOCATION: Financial Accounts Section, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: \$20,826.00 per annum.
POSITIONS: Three (3).
CONTRACT: Not Contracted.

For minimum requirements and full description, stop by or contact the Human Resource Office.

JVA No. 15-033

Opening Date: Friday, June 05, 2015
Closing Date: Friday, June 19, 2015

Fiscal Assistant: Meter Reader
LOCATION: Financial Accounts Section, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: \$16,742.00 per annum.
POSITIONS: Six (6).
CONTRACT: Not Contracted.

For minimum requirements and full description, stop by or contact the Human Resource Office.

JVA No. 15-034

Opening Date: Friday, June 05, 2015
Closing Date: Monday, July 06, 2015

Senior Engineer: Licensed Electrical Engineer
LOCATION: Power: Transmission & Distribution, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: \$48,821.00 per annum to \$82,995.00 per annum.
POSITIONS: One (1).
CONTRACT: Not Contracted.

For minimum requirements and full description, stop by or contact the Human Resource Office.

JVA No. 15-035

Opening Date: Friday, June 05, 2015
Closing Date: Friday, June 19, 2015

Engineer: Electrical Engineer
LOCATION: Power: Transmission & Distribution, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: \$40,084.00 per annum to \$54,113.00 per annum.
POSITIONS: One (1).
CONTRACT: Not Contracted.

For minimum requirements and full description, stop by or contact the Human Resource Office.

JVA No. 15-036

Opening Date: Friday, June 05, 2015
Closing Date: Friday, June 19, 2015

Administrative Technician
LOCATION: Power: Transmission & Distribution, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: \$20,826.00 per annum.
POSITIONS: One (1).
CONTRACT: Not Contracted.

For minimum requirements and full description, stop by or contact the Human Resource Office.

JVA No. 15-037

Opening Date: Friday, June 05, 2015
Closing Date: Friday, June 19, 2015

Trades Technician: Meter Technician, Electrical
LOCATION: Power: Transmission & Distribution, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: \$20,826.00 per annum.
POSITIONS: Two (2).
CONTRACT: Not Contracted.

For minimum requirements and full description, stop by or contact the Human Resource Office.

JVA No. 15-038

Opening Date: Friday, June 05, 2015
Closing Date: Friday, June 19, 2015

Trades Assistant: Lineperson
LOCATION: Power: Transmission & Distribution, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: \$16,742.00 per annum.
POSITIONS: Seven (7).
CONTRACT: Not Contracted.

For minimum requirements and full description, stop by or contact the Human Resource Office.

JVA No. 15-023

Opening Date: Friday, June 05, 2015
Closing Date: Friday, June 19, 2015

Petroleum Compliance Manager
(Also known as Technical Manager for Oil)
LOCATION(S): Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: Based on credentials and specialized experience as a Petroleum Compliance Manager in a U.S. state, U.S. territory, U.S. commonwealth, and/or the District of Columbia.
POSITIONS: One (1).
CONTRACT: Two-year, subject to renewal.

For minimum requirements and full description, stop by or contact the Human Resource Office.

JVA No. 15-024

Opening Date: Friday, June 05, 2015
Closing Date: Friday, June 19, 2015

Trades Assistant: Lineperson
LOCATION: Power: Transmission & Distribution Section, Tinian, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: \$16,742.00 per annum.
POSITIONS: One (1).
CONTRACT: Not Contracted.

For minimum requirements and full description, stop by or contact the Human Resource Office.

JVA No. 15-025

Opening Date: Friday, June 05, 2015
Closing Date: Friday, June 19, 2015

Maintenance Worker
LOCATION: Administration (Dan Dan Office), Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: \$14, 704.00 per annum.
POSITIONS: One (1).
CONTRACT: Not Contracted.

For minimum requirements and full description, stop by or contact the Human Resource Office.

JVA No. 15-026

Opening Date: Friday, June 05, 2015
Closing Date: Friday, June 19, 2015

Dispatch Operator
LOCATION: Call Center, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: \$16,742.00 per annum.
POSITION: Three (3).
CONTRACT: Not Contracted.

For minimum requirements and full description, stop by or contact the Human Resource Office.

JVA No. 15-027

Opening Date: Friday, June 05, 2015
Closing Date: Friday, June 19, 2015

Safety Compliance Technician
LOCATION: Administration, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: \$20,826.00 per annum.
POSITIONS: One (1).
CONTRACT: Not Contracted.

For minimum requirements and full description, stop by or contact the Human Resource Office.

JVA No. 15-028

Opening Date: Friday, June 05, 2015
Closing Date: Friday, June 19, 2015

Trades Assistant
LOCATION: Wastewater Division, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: \$16,742.00 per annum.
POSITIONS: Two (2).
CONTRACT: Not Contracted.

For minimum requirements and full description, stop by or contact the Human Resource Office.

JVA No. 15-029

Opening Date: Friday, June 05, 2015
Closing Date: Friday, June 19, 2015

Administrative Assistant
LOCATION: Water Division, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: \$16,742.00 per annum.
POSITIONS: One (1).
CONTRACT: Not Contracted.

For minimum requirements and full description, stop by or contact the Human Resource Office.

JVA No. 15-030

Opening Date: Friday, June 05, 2015
Closing Date: Friday, June 19, 2015

Trades Assistant
LOCATION: Water Division, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: \$16,742.00 per annum.
POSITIONS: Seven (7).
CONTRACT: Not Contracted.

For minimum requirements and full description, stop by or contact the Human Resource Office.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the CUC Human Resource Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the Tinian and Rota Administration Office.

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Business

By DAVID CRARY
AP NATIONAL WRITER

Abortions declining in nearly all states

Abortions have declined in states where new laws make it harder to have them—but they've also waned in states where abortion rights are protected, an Associated Press survey finds. Nearly everywhere, in red states and blue, abortions are down since 2010.

Explanations vary. Abortion-rights advocates attribute it to expanded access to effective contraceptives and a drop in unintended pregnancies. Some foes of abortion say there has been a shift in societal attitudes, with more women choosing to carry their pregnancies to term.

Several of the states that have been most aggressive in passing anti-abortion laws—including Indiana, Missouri, Ohio, and Oklahoma—have seen their abortion numbers drop by more than 15 percent since 2010. But more liberal states such as New York, Washington and Oregon also had declines of that magnitude, even as they maintained unrestricted access to abortion.

Nationwide, the AP survey showed a decrease in abortions of about 12 percent since 2010.

One major factor has been a decline in the teen pregnancy rate, which in 2010 reached its lowest level in decades. There's been no official update since then, but the teen birth rate has continued to drop, which experts say signals a similar trend for teen pregnancies.

The AP obtained the most recent abortion numbers from the health departments of all 45 states that compile such data on a comprehensive basis. (States not compiling such data are California, Maryland,



AP
In this July 1, 2013 file photo, an anti-abortion supporter carries a cross as he enters the Texas capitol, in Austin, Texas.

Americans on pro-choice

Half of Americans consider themselves "pro-choice" on abortion for the first time since 2008, according to a survey by Gallup.

U.S. adults' self-identified position on the abortion issue



Percent identifying as pro-choice on abortion by gender



Percent identifying as pro-choice by party ID



Source: Gallup
Graphic: Tribune News Service

New Jersey, New Hampshire and Wyoming.) With one exception, the data was from either 2013 or 2014—providing a unique nationwide gauge of abortion trends during a wave of anti-abortion laws that gathered strength starting in 2011.

Among the groups most active in promoting the restrictive laws is Americans United for Life. Its president, Charmaine Yoest, suggested that the broad decrease in abortions reflected a change in attitudes among pregnant women.

"There's an entire generation of women who saw a sonogram as their first baby picture," she said. "There's an increased awareness of the humanity of the baby before it is born."

But advocates for abortion rights said the figures demonstrate that restrictive laws are not needed to reduce the number of abortions significantly. That can be achieved, they said, by helping more women obtain affordable, effective contraception, including long-lasting options such as IUDs and hormonal implants.

"Better access to birth control and sex education are the biggest factors in reducing unintended pregnancies," said Cecile Richards, president of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America. "More restrictive abortion laws do not reduce the need for abortions."

Elizabeth Nash, a state-issues expert for the Guttmacher Institute, a research group that supports abortion rights, said a total of 267 abortion restrictions have been enacted in 31 states since 2011. Among them are measures that ban most abortions after 20 weeks of pregnancy, impose hospital-like physical standards on abortion clinics, and require doctors who perform abortions at clinics to have admitting privileges at nearby hospitals.

Employee's slacking off will continue until manager gets serious

Q: A supervisor who reports to me never gives more than the minimum effort. "Rick" is so lazy that his emails don't even contain complete sentences. Despite being a salaried employee, he refuses to work more than eight hours per day. If it's time for his shift to end, he will walk out in the middle of a conversation.

Although our jobs require evening and weekend work, Rick only comes in on weekdays. When he creates the monthly schedule for his group, he assigns all the undesirable hours to his staff. They have absolutely no respect for him, but he doesn't seem to care.

Rick and I have had several cordial discussions about these issues, so he is aware of the problem. However, he shows no signs of improving. I recently took on some of his duties myself just to keep things running. How do you manage someone who is only working for the paycheck?

A: Take a moment to consider Rick's point of view. He can set his own schedule, define his hours and avoid inconvenient assignments. You have lessened his workload by taking on tasks he dislikes. Apart from those "cordial discussions," you generally leave him alone. Since Rick's only goal is to get paid, things are working out perfectly for him. Because Rick currently has

YOUR OFFICE COACH

By MARIE G. MCINTYRE
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

Marie G. McIntyre is a workplace coach and the author of *Secrets to Winning at Office Politics*. Send in questions and get free coaching tips at <http://www.yourofficecoach.com>, or follow her on Twitter @officecoach.



no reason to reform, the first change must be in your leadership style. Instead of allowing him to run the show, you need to begin managing him much more closely and much more firmly. Start by establishing clear expectations about his hours and his behavior, then take steps to insure that those expectations are met.

If Rick tries to walk off during a conversation, tell him not to leave. If his emails are unintelligible, send them back for rewriting. Require him to submit his monthly schedule for approval, and don't allow him to shirk the evening and weekend shifts. If he fails to show any improvement, remove him from his supervisory role.

The leadership lesson here is that unacceptable behavior must trigger appropriate consequences. Intractable performance problems are never resolved by simply continuing to talk about them.

Q: I'm looking for a new job because my manager drives me crazy. She will

make my life even more miserable if she learns about my job search, so I don't want prospective employers calling here. Should I put "do not contact my current employer" on my resume?

A: Adding that statement to your resume is neither wise nor necessary. First, it would immediately make people wonder what you're trying to hide. Second, a background check is not even likely unless someone talks with you and concludes that you're a viable candidate. Therefore, you should plan to explain your desire for secrecy during the interview.

For example: "Because no one knows about my job search, I would prefer that you not contact my current employer. However, if I were to be offered the position, you could certainly do so at that time." Most interviewers understand that applicants don't want their job-seeking activities publicized, so this request should not raise any red flags.

Obama's trade quest in Congress trails him across Atlantic

ELMAU, Germany (AP)—President Barack Obama's politically fraught trade quest in Washington trailed him across the Atlantic Sunday, as he met with world leaders anxiously watching a debate on Capitol Hill that could impact the status of economic pacts with the Asia-Pacific and Europe.

The leaders spent more than an hour privately discussing trade issues as they opened a two-day meeting of the Group of Seven leading industrial nations. The talks in the majestic Bavarian Alps coincided with the delicate debate in Washington over giving Obama the authority to move trade agreements through Congress more quickly.

In addition to the summit events at Schloss Elmau, a one-time artist retreat turned luxury spa, Obama met privately with British Prime Minister David Cameron and joined German Chancellor Angela Merkel for beer and sausages in a nearby town.

Obama and his advisers voiced confidence in the trade

push, but the effort faces a deeply uncertain future. The president's own Democratic Party is largely opposed to legislation that allows Congress to reject or approve, but not change, trade deals negotiated by the administration. In an unusual political role reversal, the president's reservoir of support has come from his Republican opponents.

If Obama succeeds, it would boost the prospects for Congress eventually ratifying the Trans-Pacific Partnership pact, a 12-nation consortium that includes G-7 partners Japan and Canada. The other G-7 nations—Britain, France, Germany, and Italy—have a stake in a U.S.-European Union trade deal that is on a slower course.

Richard Fontaine, president of the Center for New American Security, said that a failure to grant Obama the negotiating authority could affect his trade agenda. Fontaine said other nations probably would view U.S. lawmakers' decisions as "a proxy for American engage-

ment in the world."

While the Senate already has sided with Obama, the House is another matter. Just 18 Democrats have expressed support publicly, and that is short of what the White House is believed to need in order to supplement affirmative GOP votes.

Four of those lawmakers traveled with Obama to Germany: Reps. Gerry Connolly of Virginia, Jim Himes of Connecticut, Eddie Bernice Johnson of Texas and Mike Quigley of Illinois. Their invitation appeared aimed both at rewarding lawmakers backing one of Obama's priorities and showing G-7 leaders that he is getting some Democrats to join the effort.

Democrats are under intense pressure from labor unions, liberal organizations and others opposed to the Asia-Pacific pact because they believe it would hurt U.S. workers and weaken environmental standards. Anti-free trade demonstrators were among the groups protesting near the summit site.

Nation

Governor: 2 inmates must have taken days to pull off escape

DANNEMORA, N.Y. (AP)—Two murderers who used power tools to escape from prison must have taken days to cut through steel walls and pipes and break through the bricks, Gov. Andrew Cuomo said Sunday as a \$100,000 reward was posted for information leading to their capture.

Authorities were investigating how the inmates obtained the power tools they used in the “Shawshank Redemption”-style breakout over the weekend.

“It was a sophisticated plan,” Cuomo said. “It took a period of time, no doubt, to execute.”

David Sweat, 34, was serving a sentence of life without parole for the 2002 killing of a sheriff’s deputy. Richard Matt, 48, had been sentenced to 25 years to life for kidnapping, killing and dismembering his former boss in 1997.

“These are killers. They are murderers,” the governor said. “There’s never been a question about the crimes they committed. They are now on the loose, and our first order of business is apprehending them.”

Officials gave no details on how the men managed to avoid detection while cutting their way out. “They had to be heard,” Cuomo told ABC’s “Good Morning America.”

After the search is over, “we’ll go through the exact details of what they did and how they did it to ensure this never happens again,” Cuomo said later.

Authorities set up roadblocks and brought in bloodhounds and helicopters. Hundreds of law enforcement officers fanned out around the prison, about 20 miles south of the Canadian border, following up on dozens of tips.



Law enforcement officers search for two escaped prisoners Sunday, June 7, 2015, near Dannemora, N.Y.

AP

“They’re going through garages, sheds, homes, stores,” said Dannemora local historian Peter Light, who worked at the prison as a correction officer for 31 years and now runs the prison museum inside the facility.

But authorities acknowledged they did not have a good idea where the convicts could be.

Dubbed “Little Siberia” by locals, the prison houses nearly 3,000 inmates, guarded by about 1,400 correction officers. Surrounded by farmland and forests, the prison is only about a 45-minute drive by car to Montreal.

Cuomo said the escapees may have crossed into Canada or headed to another state.

“This is a crisis situation for the state,” he said. “These are dangerous men capable of committing grave crimes again.”

Prison officials found the in-

mates’ beds inside the 150-year-old Clinton Correctional Facility stuffed with clothes on Saturday morning in an apparent attempt to fool guards making their rounds. On a cut steam pipe, the prisoners left a taunting note containing a crude Asian caricature and the words “Have a nice day.”

Officials said the inmates cut through the steel wall at the back of their cell, crawled down a catwalk, broke through a brick wall, cut their way into and out of a steam pipe, and then sliced through the chain and lock on a manhole cover outside the prison.

To escape, the inmates had to cut into the steam pipe then shimmy “some distance,” Cuomo said, before cutting themselves out again. Their path brought to mind “The Shawshank Redemption,” the 1994

adaptation of a Stephen King story about an inmate’s carefully planned prison escape.

It was the first escape from the maximum-security portion of the prison, which opened in 1845.

The men may have had as-

sistance outside the prison, perhaps meeting up with someone who helped them leave the area, investigators said.

Cuomo said investigators were confident the men obtained the tools inside the pris-

on. Acting Corrections Commissioner Anthony Annucci said an inventory of prison tools had so far shown none missing and he was in contact with contractors who were doing or had done work at the prison.

Drought speeds decline of beloved California desert species

LOS ANGELES (AP)—In the California desert, Joshua tree seedlings are shriveling up and dying before they get the chance to put down strong roots, and ecologist Cameron Barrows wants the details.

The University of California, Riverside scientist knows that hot weather and lack of rainwater hurt the iconic species, reports the Los Angeles Times (<http://lat.ms/1eWmPk6>). But Barrows plans to monitor Joshua trees’ responses to climate change and drought, which will provide baseline information to help guide conservation decisions.

With funding from federal wildlife officials, Barrows is trying to find ways to assess the effects of climate change on the plants and the animals they

shelter, including yucca moths, skipper butterflies, termites, ants, desert night lizards, kangaroo rats and 20 species of birds.

“Beyond its importance as a critical refuge for desert species, the Joshua tree is a cultural signature of California’s desert landscape,” UC Berkeley biology post-doctoral fellow Rebecca R. Hernandez said.

The species, which only grows in the Mojave desert, has become a mainstay for movies, fashion shoots, advertising campaigns and wedding ceremonies.

Scientists predict that the trees will lose 90 percent of their current range in the 800,000-acre Joshua Tree National Park by the end of the century if the warmer, drier conditions continue.

The park has seen 1.71 inch-

es of rain this year. Precipitation there averages about 4 inches per year.

“For Joshua trees, hotter, drier conditions are a problem—but a bigger problem is that what little rainfall occurs evaporates faster,” Barrows said.

Technically called *Yucca brevifolia*, Joshua trees aren’t actually trees—they’re succulents. They can grow up to 40 feet high, live more than 200 years and bloom sporadically with yellow and white bell-shaped blossoms.

They were named after the biblical figure Joshua by a band of Mormons travelling through the Cajon Pass back to Utah in 1857. They saw the trees as shaggy prophets stretching their limbs to point the way to their promised land.

Texas officer on leave after video shows him pushing teen

MCKINNEY, Texas (AP)—A suburban Dallas police officer has been placed on administrative leave after a video showed him pushing a 14-year-old girl in a swimsuit to the ground outside a pool and pointing his gun at other teens.

McKinney Police Chief Greg Conley said at a news conference Sunday that the incident began when officers responded Friday to a report of a disturbance involving a group of juveniles at a neighborhood pool.

The police department said in an earlier statement that the young people did not live in the area or have permission to be there.

When officers arrived, resi-

dents and private security pointed out the juveniles who were “creating the disturbance, fighting and refusing to leave,” Conley said.

As officers dispersed the crowd, the 14-year-old girl was “temporarily detained” by an officer, said Conley, who did not describe what led to her detainment.

The video showed the officer pulling the bikini-clad girl to the ground then appearing to use his knees to pin her facedown. He can also be seen pointing his gun at other teens and cursing.

The police statement said the video “has raised concerns that are being investigated” by the department. The officer is

on leave pending the outcome, Conley said.

The officer’s name was not immediately released. Conley said he did not have information about how long the officer had been with the force.

One man was arrested for interference with the duties of a peace officer and evading arrest, Conley said. Everyone else was released.

McKinney Mayor Brian Loughmiller said in a written statement that he was “disturbed and concerned by the incident and actions depicted in the video.” He called for the city and police to quickly investigate.

McKinney is about 35 miles northeast of Dallas.

ACROSS THE NATION

Bikers’ continued jailing sparks Waco protest 3 weeks later

WACO, Texas (AP)—Several hundred bikers protested Sunday outside a courthouse in Waco over the continued jailing of more than 100 bikers, friends and family members three weeks after a deadly shootout at a restaurant. Bikers proclaimed their constitutional rights and held signs outside the McLennan County courthouse. Before they parked in front of the court building, they circled the jail and detention center twice. “We wanted to let the boys know we were here,” Sons of Liberty motorcycle club member Mel Robins said. The protest was organized by the club’s Dallas chapter. The Confederation of Clubs and Independents urged members in an email to avoid the protest so as not to “exacerbate what is already a highly charged” situation. That group is the one that organized the May 17 meeting at a Waco Twin Peaks that ended in gunfire.

Teen completes 57-mile walk carrying brother on back

DETROIT (AP)—A Michigan teen who last year walked 40 miles carrying his brother on his back to raise awareness for cerebral palsy has wrapped up an even longer trek with his sibling. Hunter Gandee finished his 57-mile journey Sunday afternoon at the University of Michigan’s Pediatric

Rehabilitation Center in Ann Arbor after starting from Lambertville in southeastern Michigan’s Monroe County. His brother was in a harness. Hunter was 14 last June when he carried then-7-year-old Braden, who has cerebral palsy and cannot walk unassisted. Hunter told The Associated Press by phone Sunday that he was “pretty sore” near the finish but “got a burst of energy at the end.” He said they received great support throughout the weekend.

Woman delivering newspapers run over by another carrier

BREMERTON, Wash. (AP)—Investigators say a 70-year-old woman delivering newspapers in Washington state was run over and killed by another newspaper carrier. The Kitsap County Sheriff’s office says Madeline K. Boatwright was delivering The Kitsap Sun in an unincorporated area north of Bremerton on Sunday morning when a 62-year-old man delivering The Seattle Times backed his Subaru out of a residential driveway and struck her. Boatwright had parked across the street and was apparently delivering a Kitsap Sun to the same driveway where the Subaru was backing out. The driver immediately called 911. Emergency crews brought the woman to a Bremerton hospital, where she was pronounced dead.

Asia

US woman sets out on 6K-mile Pacific crossing by rowboat

CHOSHI, Japan (AP)—The best part of being on the ocean for weeks at a time, says Sonya Baumstein, is the stars. The worst? Being wet, all the time.

Baumstein, an athlete from Orlando, Florida, waited for weeks to set out in her custom-designed rowboat from Choshi, a port east of Tokyo, headed for San Francisco. With a few last-minute adjustments to her supplies and a brief call to her parents, she rowed out of the marina on Sunday, a tiny sliver on the glittering horizon, hoping to finish the 6,000-mile (9,600-kilometer) journey by late September and become the first woman to row solo across the Pacific.

Only three other rowboats have made the journey, and no woman has ever done it alone.

Having already rowed the Atlantic to the Caribbean, the 29-year-old has a pretty clear idea of what all those weeks at sea will be like. With relatively clear skies, she may get the peaceful, starry night she was hoping for.

"It's very cool to see wildlife, but to watch the passing of the stars, because I row all night



AP
American rower Sonya Baumstein, from Orlando, Fla., rows a boat as she leaves Choshi Marina in Choshi, a port east of Tokyo, headed for San Francisco Sunday, June 7, 2015.

if it's good weather. To see the complete Milky Way," she said.

It's the paradox of modern-day adventuring that with new, extra-lightweight materials, solar panels and high-tech telecommunications, explorers and other extreme athletes can skate

ever closer to survival's edge, under skeins of stars most of us rarely see.

Baumstein's rowboat, the "Tcha," short for an Okinawan phrase meaning "once we meet we're family," is a lime-green, 23-foot (7-meter) -long vessel that weighs less than 660 pounds (300 kilograms). It has

no motor or sail.

When the weather allows, she plans to row 14-16 hours a day, breaking her sleep to check her location—she hopes to stay within the 100-kilometer (62-mile) -wide Kuroshio current that arcs across the Pacific, at least for the first part of the journey.

Baumstein rowed competitively in high school and at the University of Wisconsin, but was sidelined by a bad car accident. After recovering, she joined three men in rowing the mid-Atlantic from the Canary Islands to Barbados in January 2012. She has kayaked from Washington state to Alas-

ka, stand-up paddle-boarded across the Bering Strait and bicycled 1,800 miles (2,900 kilometers) from the Mexican border to Seattle.

She likens the Pacific challenge to "climbing K-12 without oxygen."

But she's determined.

"I worked three years of my life for this," she said Sunday. "It's 6,000 miles. It's going to get bad at times. I just keep my eyes on the prize."

Andrew Cull, founder of Remote Medical International, which provides medical training and equipment to hard-to-reach places, says he believes she has the physical, emotional and mental strength to pull off the adventure despite the potentially perilous weather and conditions of the North Pacific.

"What's gotten her across oceans and to this point is sheer drive and willpower," said Cull, who is a sponsor and trained Baumstein for the paddle-board feat.

"I was impressed by her drive and intrigued by her extremely intense and long adventures. I remember our second call; she was on a rowing machine for 24 hours straight with a partner while Skyping sponsors to sort out logistics," Cull said.

Death toll from Mount Kinabalu earthquake rises to 16; 2 missing

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP)—The death toll from an earthquake that trapped scores of climbers on Malaysia's highest peak rose to 16 Monday as rescuers searched for two Singaporean climbers still missing.

A magnitude-5.9 earthquake on Friday sent rocks and boulders raining down the trekking routes on 4,095-meter (13,435-foot) Mount Kinabalu in eastern Sabah state on Borneo island.

Nine of the bodies found Saturday were flown out by helicopter, while two were carried down, police said. Five more bodies have now been recovered.

State tourism minister Masidi Manjun said the victims were seven Singaporeans, six Malaysians, and a Filipino, Chinese and Japanese national each.

He said a Singaporean student and teacher were still missing.

Singapore on Monday flew flags at half-staff to mourn the victims, part of a school outing to the mountain.

Most of the other climbers made it down the mountain in the darkness early Saturday, some with broken limbs and one in a coma.

Amanda Peter said local guides told her group of 21 climbers that a helicopter

would pick them up, but they decided to walk out after a frustrating nine-hour wait.

"There were risks of us dying up there of cold overnight," said the 23-year-old Sabah native. "The guide said we either die of waiting or we die trying. So we all chose to try walking down ourselves."

She said she saw two bodies lying on a flat rock on the way down. "It really affected me as it could have been me. I was lucky to be given a chance to live," she said.

Masidi said in a tweet that "it's easy to pick on weaknesses" of the search-and-rescue operation and "I'm sure they are many." He said the shortcomings will be examined, but "now is not the time to blame."

About 60 rescuers and four helicopters were combing the mountain, where loose rocks and boulders that fell during the quake blocked part of the main route.

The quake also damaged roads and buildings, including schools and a hospital on Sabah's west coast. It also broke one of the twin rock formations on the mountain known as the "Donkey's Ears."

The mountain will be closed for three weeks for maintenance work, and flags will be flown at half-staff in Sabah on Monday to mourn the victims.

6th person dies of MERS virus in South Korea

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korea on Monday reported its sixth death from Middle East Respiratory Syndrome as authorities were bolstering measures to stem the spread of the virus that has left dozens of people infected.

A total of 87 people in South Korea have been infected by MERS since last month in the largest outbreak outside the Middle East. About 1,870 schools have closed and more than 2,000 people are isolated at their homes or state-run facilities after having contact with patients infected with the virus.

An 80-year-old man, who tested positive for the virus last week while being treated for pneumonia, died Monday and became the country's sixth

death linked to MERS, according to a statement from the Health Ministry.

Departing from its earlier policy, the government on Sunday disclosed the names of the 24 hospitals where the MERS patients have been diagnosed or had been treated before their condition was confirmed. This will allow people who have visited those facilities in recent weeks to report themselves if they are showing symptoms similar to MERS-related illnesses, officials said.

The government had earlier refused to reveal the names of those hospitals saying it would cause a disruption in services if people started avoiding them. The disclosure came two days after the government first identified one

hospital at the heart of the virus's outbreak in South Korea.

Deputy Prime Minister Choi Kyung-hwan told a news conference Sunday that there was no reason to believe that the virus would significantly spread further in the country.

"So far, all the MERS cases have been hospital-associated, and there has been no case of an infection in other social settings. We think we have a chance at putting the outbreak under total control," Choi said.

The virus has no vaccine, and health experts say it spreads through close contact with infected people and not through the air.

The U.N. health agency has reported that there's no evidence yet in South Korea of

"sustained transmission in the community."

Choi said the government will also strengthen its monitoring of the hundreds of undiagnosed patients who are quarantined at their homes because officials believe they might have contracted the virus. It includes tracking their whereabouts through cellphone signals.

MERS was discovered in 2012 and has mostly been centered in Saudi Arabia. It belongs to the family of coronaviruses that includes the common cold and SARS, and can cause fever, breathing problems, pneumonia and kidney failure. The virus has spread primarily through contact with camels, but it can also spread from human fluids and droplets.

Relatives weep at morgue after China's Yangtze ship disaster

JIANLI, China (AP)—Many relatives wept openly as they arrived Monday at a morgue for a last look at bodies of loved ones among the more than 430 people killed in the Yangtze River capsizing of the *Eastern Star* cruise boat.

One man carried a framed picture inside a white plastic bag of his relative, as smoke rose from the morgue's nearby crematorium in the Hubei Province riverside community of Jianli. Authorities identified bodies from DNA samples donated by rela-

tives, who had the option of a last look at bodies before cremation.

Under Chinese tradition, families will have the bodies cremated at a local morgue and then bring the ashes to their home communities for burial.

The death toll in the June 1 disaster near Jianli stood Monday at 434 following a thorough search of the now-upright ship over the weekend. Eight people are still missing, and authorities said they would search downriver more than 1,000 kilometers (600 miles) as far as Shanghai.

Fourteen people survived the late-evening capsizing during a severe storm, most of them by swimming or drifting. Three were pulled out by divers from the overturned hull the day after disaster, when rescuers heard yells from within.

Chinese authorities have attributed the accident to sudden, turbulent winds. They also have placed the surviving captain and chief engineer in police custody, though they have released no details of any pending investigation into their conduct.

Some passengers' relatives say they believe authorities have not focused enough on the possibility of human error, including misjudgment about carrying on with the cruise during the storm rather than anchoring.

The overturning of the multi-decked, 77-meter (251-foot) *Eastern Star* is China's worst boat disaster since the sinking of the SS *Kiangya* off Shanghai in 1948 during a civil war, which is believed to have killed anywhere from 2,750 to nearly 4,000 people.

World

G-7 leaders signal united front on Russia sanctions

ELMAU, Germany (AP)—German Chancellor Angela Merkel said Sunday she expects a meeting of the Group of Seven industrialized democracies to produce a “united signal” that sanctions against Russia can only be softened if a February peace accord for Ukraine is fully implemented.

Even before the issue was brought to the table, most of the leaders had already expressed their support for the idea.

This year’s meeting of the leading industrialized democracies was the second in a row without Russia, which was ejected from what was the G-8 last year over its actions in Ukraine. Even with President Vladimir Putin absent, Russia was prominent in the leaders’ minds as they gathered in the Bavarian Alps.

Merkel and U.S. President Barack Obama agreed during a pre-summit bilateral meeting that the duration of sanctions imposed upon Moscow should be “clearly linked to Russia’s full implementation of the Minsk” peace accord agreed in February, the White House said in a statement. Merkel and French President Francois Hollande, another summit participant, were central to drawing up that accord.

Later, Merkel stressed anew



From left, Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi, European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker, Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, French President Francois Hollande, Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper, European Council President Donald Tusk, German Chancellor Angela Merkel and U.S. President Barack Obama, walk to a family photo during the G-7 summit at Schloss Elmau hotel near Garmisch-Partenkirchen, southern Germany, Sunday, June 7, 2015. AP

Kawamura said.

Heading into the talks, British Prime Minister David Cameron said he would push for Europe to stand firm with sanctions against Russia even though some countries—especially cash-strapped Greece—were suffering economically because of declining investment and tourists from Russia.

“It has an impact on all countries in terms of putting sanctions on another country,” Cameron said. “Britain hasn’t let our pre-eminence in financial services get in the way of taking a robust response to Russian-backed aggression and I don’t think other countries should either.”

in an interview with Germany’s public ZDF television that sanctions are not an end in themselves and they “can be dispensed with when the conditions under which they were introduced are no longer there and the problems are resolved.”

She said that “we have a chance if everyone makes an

effort—that is to some extent in Russia’s hands and of course in Ukraine’s.”

Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe visited Kiev before heading to the summit in Germa-

ny and pledged to make sure that “solidarity with Ukraine” was also on the agenda for the next G-7, which is being held in Japan, his spokesman Yasuhisa Kawamura told a small group of reporters.

This year, he said, Japan’s main goal is that all sides abide by the Minsk agreement.

“That is our goal and for that ... all G-7 leaders should show a common approach,”

Italian leaders vow not to shelter any more rescued migrants

ROME (AP)—Heartened by recent election successes by an anti-immigrant party, Italian politicians based in the north vowed Sunday not to shelter any more migrants saved at sea, even as thousands more were being rescued in the Mediterranean from smugglers’ boats in distress.

Elsewhere in the country, however, corruptions investigations have revealed that some local officials gleefully see a cash cow in the shelters.

Over the weekend, nearly 6,000 migrants were rescued by an array of European military vessels, including 2,371 who were saved on Sunday from 15 boats that ran into difficulty shortly after smugglers set off with them from Libyan shores, the Italian coast guard said.

Two German military ships brought a total of some 1,400 people to Sicilian ports Sunday, a day after they were rescued.

Mayors of Sicilian and other southern towns have warned for months they’ve run out of room for migrants, and thousands of the rescued are being resettled in shelters in central and northern Italy while their asylum requests are processed. The migrants flee poverty, persecution and war in Africa, the Middle East and Asia.

Among the north-based Italian politicians refusing to accept more migrants Sunday was newly-elected Liguria Gov. Giovanni Toti. Toti’s candidacy was backed by his mentor, former center-right Premier Silvio Berlusconi, and by the anti-immigrant Northern League party, which was bolstered by results in balloting for governorships a week ago.

In Lombardy, whose capital is Milan, longtime League leader, Gov. Roberto Maroni, asked followers on Twitter if they agreed with him that “Lombardy mayors must refuse to welcome clandestine migrants” by the national government or else face regional funding cuts as punishment.

Fueling pledges to welcome no more migrants in their regions was a warning Saturday from Britain’s defense secretary, Michael Fallon, that hundreds of thousands of migrants might be in Libya, poised to attempt the perilous sea crossing over the summer months.

An U.N. refugee agency official, Carlotta Sami, called such figures speculation. But Northern League leader Matteo Salvini cited the huge figure when he spoke about “an alarm” of a flood of migrants.

Gitmo veteran now steering Europe’s youths away from jihad

PARIS (AP)—He learned warfare in an al-Qaida training camp, did time at Guantanamo and more time in a French prison. With such a resume, Mourad Benchellali may seem an unlikely youth counsellor—but he is telling his story to young Europeans, warning them against the lure of jihad.

The 33-year-old Frenchman is one of a small number of Europeans presenting their jihadi past as an example for others not to follow. Many see men like him as a powerful tool to deter youth from heading to Syria—while Western

governments are wary of them.

Benchellali meets with young audiences at least once a week in France, Belgium and Switzerland to persuade them of the folly of flying off to join the Islamic State or other groups waging holy war in Syria and Iraq.

“There are kids who are tempted, who’ve been approached,” Benchellali told The Associated Press. “They come to listen, they are curious and the fact that I’m a former Guantanamo (prisoner), that speaks to them. ... I give them tools to understand.”

A practicing Muslim,

Benchellali above all strives to take the glamour out of jihad. As a 19-year-old, he viewed the voyage to al-Qaida’s training camp in Kandahar, Afghanistan, as a romantic adventure. The reality, he tells youths, was a shock: grinding physical exercises in blazing heat, weapons training and propaganda videos in the evening, along with mind-numbing organization rigorously enforced—and a compulsory 60-day minimum stay.

Then came the Sept. 11 attacks, followed by U.S. bombings in Afghanistan and mass

flight from Kandahar. He escaped through the mountains to Pakistan, only to be arrested and turned over to American forces—and sent to the U.S. Navy base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. There, he languished for 2 1/2 years in a small cage. He filed a lawsuit against the United States for torture and sequestration.

In his meetings with youth, Benchellali does not preach against jihad, saying that would discredit him with his young audience. He claims he was not a real jihadi because he never took up arms in a conflict.

Obama, with beer and wurst, works to mend US-German ties

KRUEN, Germany (AP)—Feasting on Bavarian beer and sausages, President Barack Obama on Sunday celebrated decades of U.S. friendship with Germany despite recent challenges and said the country “is proof that conflicts can end and great progress is possible.”

Obama kicked off an overnight visit to attend the Group of Seven summit of world leaders by focusing on mending relations with host Germany, visiting the picturesque Alpine village of Kruen with Chancellor Angela Merkel.

“This morning as we celebrate one of the strongest alliances the world has ever known my message to the German people is simple: We are grateful for your friendship, for your leadership. We stand together as inseparable allies in Europe and

around the world,” Obama said as he addressed the timeless Bavarian scene, complete with the sounds of alphorns.

Obama is closer to Merkel than most heads of state, although their relationship has been tested in the past couple of years, particularly after it emerged that the National Security Agency had tapped Merkel’s cellphone. The revelation was particularly chilling in Germany, with its oppressive history of secret government surveillance.

But Merkel seemed eager to move on. She said in interviews that she didn’t bring the spying controversy up with Obama since they’ve already discussed what needed to be said in previous meetings. In her speech in Kruen, she addressed him as “dear Barack.”

“Although it is true we sometimes have differences of opinion today from time to time, but still the United States of America is our friend, our partner and indeed an essential partner with whom we cooperate very closely,” Merkel said through a translator. “We cooperate closely because this is in our mutual interest. We cooperate because we need it. We cooperate because we want it.”

Obama and Merkel met privately afterward at the nearby Schloss Elmau resort to coordinate their summit agenda before joining the leaders of Britain, France, Italy, Canada and Japan. Russian President Vladimir Putin was ousted from the group last year over his annexation of Crimea from Ukraine, although the crisis remains as fighting with pro-Moscow separatists

spiked in the past week despite a ceasefire agreement negotiated four months ago in Belarus.

Obama press secretary Josh Earnest said Merkel and Obama spent most of their meeting talking about the importance of showing unity in speaking out against Russia as Moscow “has essentially thumbed their nose at the commitments they made in the context of the Minsk negotiations.” Earnest said Obama is pushing Europe to preserve sanctions against Russia until Moscow lives up to that agreement, but he couldn’t say the president is confident they will elect to do so later this summer.

“Ultimately it will be up to the Europeans to do so, keeping in mind our shared view that keeping up this unity is very important,” he said.

Focus

SOUTH CHINA SEA WATCH: US ups pressure with overflights

AP
In this Monday, May 11, 2015, file photo, This aerial photo taken through a glass window of a military plane shows China's alleged on-going reclamation of Mischief Reef in the Spratly Islands in the South China Sea.

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The dispute over the strategic waterways of the South China Sea has intensified, pitting a rising China against its smaller and militarily weaker neighbors who all lay claim to a string of isles, coral reefs and lagoons known as the Spratly and the Paracel islands. Only about 45 of them are occupied. The area is one of the world's busiest shipping routes, rich in fish and potentially gas and oil reserves, but it has now emerged as a possible flashpoint involving world powers and regional claimants.

A look at some of the most recent key developments:

US RATCHETS UP PRESSURE ON CHINA

The U.S. military has begun actively—and more publicly—challenging China's sovereignty claims over half a dozen artificial islands Beijing has been rapidly constructing through massive land reclamation.

On May 22, a U.S. Navy P-8A Poseidon surveillance aircraft—a militarized version of the Boeing 737—flew from Clark Air Base in the Philippines over Mischief Reef and Fiery Cross Reef, previously submerged coral features that China occupied in the mid-1990s and late 1980s, and is now expanding into a landmass several times their original size.

Recent satellite images show the construction of an airstrip, port facilities, cement factories and barracks, among other installations. U.S. defense officials also revealed that China had put two large artillery vehicles on one island.

In a video captured by CNN, which had a crew on the P-8 flight, China's navy dispatcher warned the plane eight times to leave the area, and each time the U.S. pilots responded by saying: "I am a United States military aircraft conducting lawful military activities acting outside national airspace. I am with due regard in accordance with international law."

The U.S. refuses to recognize China's sovereignty over disputed islands. Defense Secretary Ash Carter said the U.S. will continue to enforce freedom of navigation in what it considers international waters. U.S. officials are concerned that China could use the islands to fortify its claims and gain the upper hand by force and intimidation.

Washington is considering more military flights and naval patrols, possibly within 12 nautical miles of the islands—a parameter China considers its territorial waters.

The littoral combat ship USS Fort Worth, among the Navy's most modern vessels, in May completed its patrol of the South China Sea. It encountered a Chinese navy ship, but they contacted each other to avoid any mishap, according to U.S.

military officials.

Capt. Fred Kacher, commodore of the destroyer squadron, said routine operations like this in the South China Sea "will be the new normal" as four more littoral warships are expected to be deployed in the region.

CHINA STANDS BY ISLAND-BUILDING, TELLS MILITARY TO PROTECT SEAS

China says it is "extremely concerned" with the possibility that the U.S. could start patrolling close to the islands.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Hua Chunying says freedom of navigation does not mean that foreign military ships and aircraft can enter another country's territorial waters or airspace at will. Hua said that China has always safeguarded the freedom and safety of navigation and overflight in the South China Sea.

Defense Ministry spokesman Yang Yujun compared the island-building to ordinary construction, such as road-building going on elsewhere in the country. He says such activities are designed to satisfy both military and civilian purposes.

Yang says the issue has been brought to the fore by an increase in surveillance activities and an effort to "deliberately play up the issue in order to smear China's military and raise tensions in the region."

"I don't rule out that certain countries are looking for excuses to take certain actions," Yang said.

Communist Party newspaper Global Times warned that Washington should not test Beijing's restraint or China would have "no choice but to engage."

In the newly updated report on its military strategy, China has added "open seas protection" to its traditional "offshore waters defense."

COLD WAR REDUX?

The U.S. and China may not agree on the South China Sea, but the world powers are unlikely to start a conflict over it.

Instead, the South China Sea could become a new theater of Cold War-style confrontations involving close-in military flights and naval run-ins, the U.S. arming old allies (the Philippines) and seeking new ones (Vietnam).

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry expressed Washington's deep concern with China's island-building when he visited Beijing in May. Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Ji politely but pointedly dismissed it. Both stressed the importance of dialogue. Wang said that the differences between China and the U.S. could be managed "as long as we can avoid misunderstanding and, even more importantly, avoid miscalculation."

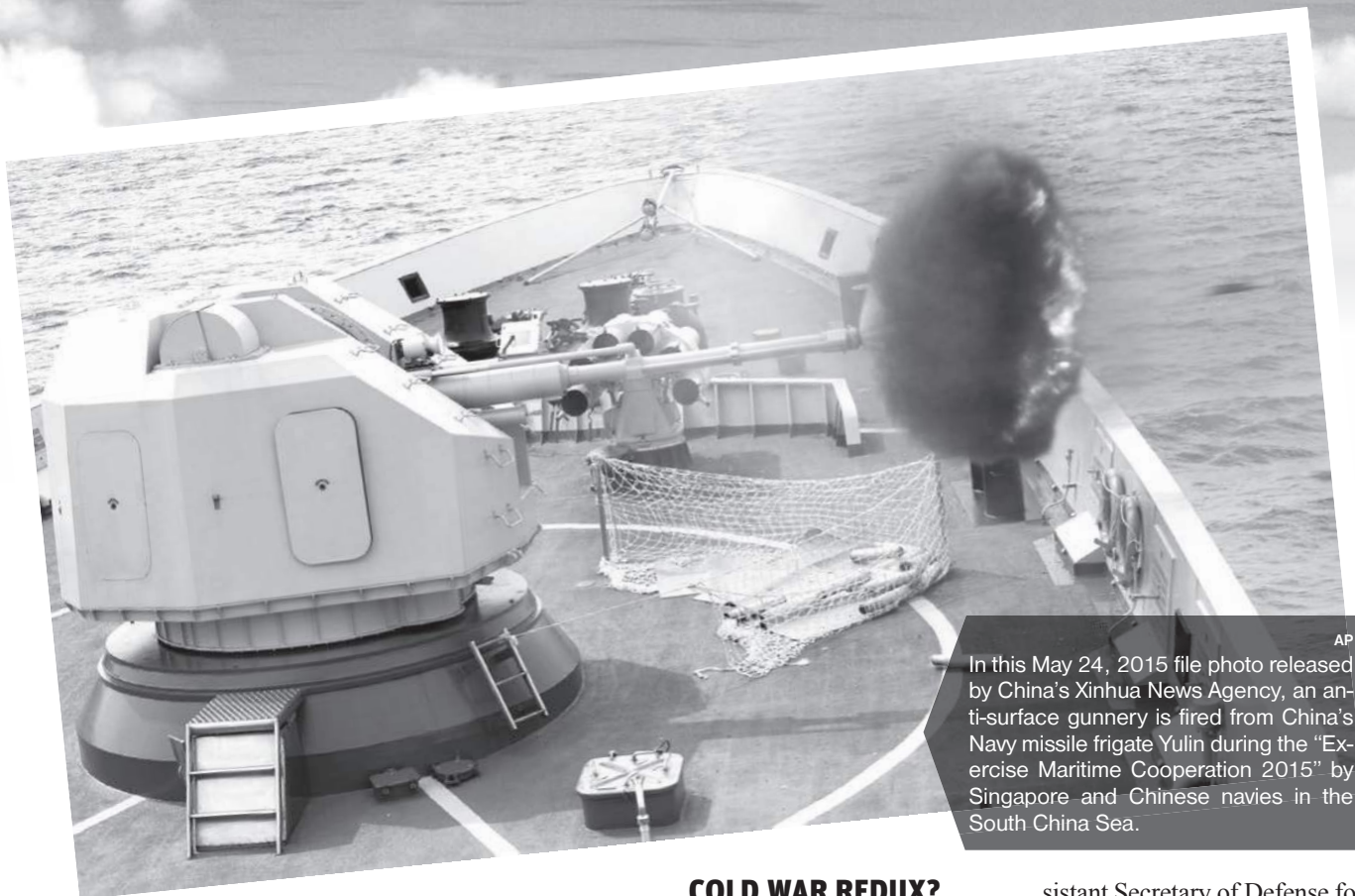
"There aren't any silver bullets to resolving this," said As-

sistant Secretary of Defense for Asian and Pacific Security Affairs David Shear. "It's going to take time, and it's going to take some determined diplomacy by us and with our partners."

Sen. John McCain, chairman of the Armed Services Committee, asked for supplying lethal weapons to Vietnam and disinviting China from a major Pacific military exercise next year. However, Adm. Harry Harris, who just took over the U.S. Pacific Command, says China's invitation stays and the two countries must engage if they are to build a better relationship.

LAST WORD

"Turning an underwater rock into an airfield simply does not afford the rights of sovereignty or permit restrictions on international air or maritime transit."—U.S. Defense Secretary Ash Carter, speaking at the Shangri-La Dialogue security conference in Singapore.



AP
In this May 24, 2015 file photo released by China's Xinhua News Agency, an anti-surface gunnery is fired from China's Navy missile frigate Yulin during the "Exercise Maritime Cooperation 2015" by Singapore and Chinese navies in the South China Sea.

Overdrive

2016 Sonata marks Hyundai's entry into plug-in hybrid market

By SUSAN CARPENTER
THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

It's a predictable truism of gas prices that what goes down eventually climbs back up. In the last month alone, gasoline has increased 75 cents per gallon in California, nudging it over \$4 for the first time since last year.

Hybrids, it seems, might stand a chance after all, following a massive consumer defection out of fuel-efficient vehicles into super-sized SUVs. And if that's the case, Hyundai's first-ever plug-in hybrid could be perfectly poised to take advantage of the reverse tide when it comes on the market this fall.

Hyundai has offered its Sonata midsize sedan as a hybrid for years. But for 2016, it's supplemented with a plug-in version that can travel up to 24 miles as an all-electric vehicle and 605 miles per fill-up using gas and electricity combined.

Most all-electric cars can be had in a predictably blase shape: They're eggy hatchbacks. Midsize sedans being the bestselling car class in the U.S., and the Sonata being the Korean automaker's sales leader, Hyundai is following the example led by Honda (with its plug-in Accord) and Ford (with its Fusion Energi). It's a vehicle that lets mainstream consumers dip their toes in the waters of EV ownership without the cost-prohibitive and range-restricting sacrifice.

Like its plug-less hybrid sibling, also updated for 2016, the Sonata plug-in hybrid electric vehicle, or PHEV, uses a 2-liter gasoline engine coupled with a compact permanent magnet synchronous motor. The lithium ion batteries eke out more



power and energy than they did in the outgoing hybrid. At 9.8 kilowatt hours, the PHEV boasts the largest battery pack among its competitors and fuel economy that's unheard of for hybrids without a plug: 93 mpg equivalent.

That's a lot of gas money that can be diverted to groceries or child care or tennis balls. Whatever fuels your fire, the Sonata PHEV forces efficiency upon the driver, defaulting, when charged, to all-electric mode every time the driver turns over the ignition unless the driver consciously selects hybrid.

As an EV, the car is pleasingly spry and surprisingly quiet. Best for city driving, its top EV-only speed is 75 mph. Switch to HEV, and it will drive as a hybrid to maintain its battery charge level. Best used for monotonous highway miles, HEV

saves its EV capacity for when it's most effective—at lower, city speeds.

I spent a day behind the (heated) steering wheel of the Sonata PHEV. Driving it was luxury-level quiet, even at speed. Defaulting to EV mode for takeoffs had a performance advantage as well: the cheap thrill of the electric motor's instant torque.

The Sonata PHEV's interior is the same as the gas-powered version with the exception of its dash. Instead of the usual tachometer, it has an EV power mode that shows when the car is drawing electricity from the battery or adding to it through regenerative braking. Like the new EV it is, it proudly spells out in bold digital type exactly how much all-electric range it's got.

And, like many eco-oriented cars, it also has the dashboard

version of Ed Begley Jr. At any time during my drive I could check in on my "driving style" and easily see if it was economical, normal or aggressive. I've always been something of a lead foot, so I was surprised to see that after 50 miles behind the wheel my style was 0 percent aggressive, 87 percent economical. Making a conscious effort to stomp it coming off of a green light, I was only able to get my aggression level to 1 percent.

The PHEV is available in two versions. I was driving the more loaded Limited model, which adds advanced safety features like lane-keep assistance. It also upgrades the seats to leather, but not to a caliber that's olfactory, and increases the center console screen to an easier-to-read 8 inches.

That screen, however, doesn't

NUTS & BOLTS

2016 Hyundai Sonata Plug-in Hybrid

- Base price: TBA (ASTERISK)
- Price as tested (Limited version): TBA (ASTERISK)
- Powertrain: Parallel hybrid using direct-injected, 2-liter, in-line 4-cylinder, 4 valves per cylinder, DOHC, Dual Continuously Variable Valve Timing engine paired with 360-volt, permanent magnet synchronous electric motor and 9.8-kilowatt-hour lithium ion battery; 6-speed automatic transmission
- Net horsepower: 202 at

6,000 rpm

- Torque: 140 pound-feet at 5,000 rpm (gas engine); 151 lb.-ft. at 0-1,770 rpm (electric motor)
- All-electric range: 24 miles
- Recharge time: Less than 3 hours (using level 2 charger)
- Wheelbase: 110.4 inches
- Overall length: 191.1 inches
- Curb weight: 3,810 pounds
- Manufacturer-estimated fuel economy: 93 mpg-e (electric plus gasoline mode); 40 mpg combined
- (ASTERISK) Eligible for federal tax credit of \$4,919

take full advantage of the fact that it's operated by touch. The climate controls are still separate buttons that are lined up like little soldiers along its bottom. The toggles for its drive modes and electric and hybrid settings are likewise actual buttons. At least they are intuitively laid out and easy on the eyes — more premium feeling than one would expect for its nameplate.

Most of the 200 miles, and five hours, I spent back to back in the PHEV and plugless hybrid last week were along the coast and on the highway. And while the hybrid powertrains were smooth and efficient, what was most striking about both cars was how comfortable they were to drive.

The overall feel of the car is comfortably languid. Its handling and ride quality are more cozy than sporty, its steering more soft than taut.

Power front seats that are heated and ventilated are standard; heated rear seats are available as an option. As a whole, the interior was spacious, its seating roomy. Even in the back seat with the front seats pushed all the way back, my femurs weren't pressed into my hip sockets. My noggin didn't even come close to the headliner.

My day trip precluded the need to carry luggage, but for the 2016 Sonata hybrids, Hyundai has repackaged the battery to expand its trunk space, moving it from behind the rear seats to under the trunk floor in what is usually the spare tire well. What to do if you need a spare? Make sure you have AAA. There's only a tire mending kit attached to the trunk's wall.

While the interior is largely the same as the gas Sonata, the exterior of both hybrids are more futuristic looking. Form following function, the front grille is equipped with active front flaps to reroute troublesome and turbulent air toward the car's smooth underbody and past their "eco," or flat-spoke, wheels for unfettered passage, instead of swirling in their

spokes. The corner edges of the rear bumpers were also sharpened to cut fuel-sapping drag.

It's doubtful Hyundai and Tesla are ever comparison shopped, but, recognizing that it doesn't hurt to have at least one thing in common with the aspirational EV, Hyundai proudly declares that its Sonata Hybrid is tied with the Tesla Model S for its nominal coefficient of drag.

The hybrid's deep-set face isn't only for efficiency: It hides a radar sensor that enables some of its optional advanced safety features, such as forward collision avoidance and adaptive cruise control. The safety features are included in the more expensive of the two PHEV versions that will be offered. Blind spot monitoring and lane-keep assistance are also included and work well, i.e. unobtrusively.

They are, however, the one area where Hyundai's budget-conscious rep is most apparent. The tone quality of the beeps it emitted whenever I threatened to wander from my lane without signaling or plow into a compatriot's bumper was an uninspired bleat.

Pricing hasn't yet been announced, but the PHEV Sonata will be the most expensive of its three versions. For 2015, the gas-powered Sonata started at \$21,975, its hybrid stablemate at \$30,325. Industry analysts expect the PHEV to be priced slightly less than its rivals—the \$39,780 Honda Accord Plug-in Hybrid and \$34,800 Ford Fusion Energi.

The updated 2016 Sonata Hybrid will be available this summer, followed by the plug-in hybrid this fall, starting in California, where more than 50 percent of all PHEVs are sold. The PHEV will eventually be offered in other so-called zero-emissions mandate states, including Connecticut, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island and Vermont. Customers who live in other states can still buy the PHEV. They just need to special order it.

UNDER THE HOOD

By BRAD BERGHOLDT
TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

Q: What's your take on Ford's EcoBoost engine and others that supposedly deliver big-engine power while using small-engine gas? Do the long-term savings justify the higher upfront cost? I'm looking at new F-150s and trying to sort out the engine choices. —Terry

A: I certainly admire the engineering and efficiency built into these engines and their performance is impressive. The power delivered by a techie engine can be double that of an identically sized, old school engine and perhaps 30 percent better than an identically sized current but lower-tech sibling. In a nutshell, a boosted V-6 engine delivers V-8 power while using about 15 percent less fuel. The at-

Is Ford's EcoBoost engine worth its price?

tribute I find most appealing is the significant increase in midrange torque. It's interesting that the 3.5-liter EcoBoost engine gets the same combined gas mileage as its lower-tech, displacement sibling.

My main concerns are that these modern engines are fussy and less forgiving of abuse. Indeed, there have been a few teething issues with the EcoBoost system.

The heart of this is direct fuel injection and twin turbochargers. Though the system delivers outstanding performance, I'm still unconvinced regarding its long-term durability. Furthermore, the cost to repair these engines will be higher than for standard 3.5-liter or 5-liter engines. Owners need to be certain to use exactly the right lubricants and coolant and change them on schedule (important with any

engine, really). Clean, high-quality oil and cooling system maintenance are both key to keeping a pair of turbochargers happy. Top-tier fuel is also a must for direct injected engines in order to mitigate intake valve carbon buildup.

If my math is right, you'd need to put around 40,000 miles on the truck before the fuel savings of the EcoBoost would justify choosing it over the V-8 standard engine. Each additional 55,000 miles would bring you about \$1,000 ahead. I'd hope durability issues wouldn't wipe out your savings somewhere down the road. I should add the V-8 engine has some great performance/efficiency features such as four valve heads and variable valve timing.

Q: Is there a way to make my turn signals louder? My RV is fairly noisy and I am a bit hard of hearing. —Allen Norris

A: Yes, this can be done. Older vehicles using a standard flasher unit can often be retrofitted with a simple plug-in replacement that is designed to be easier to hear. Newer vehicles often use a more complicated and proprietary flasher unit making this upgrade less likely. Any vehicle can be modified by adding an inexpensive tone generator. Doing so would require accessing the left and right turn signal wires beneath the instrument panel and splicing in the tone generator, along with a pair of isolating diodes. In some cases this is easier to talk about than to do, as the wiring may be difficult to identify and access. See if you can find a repair shop with a sharp and innovative tech willing to do this at reasonable cost, then go pick up the parts yourself.

Life & Style

NEW YORK (AP)—Two veteran Broadway stars—Michael Cerveris of “Fun Home” and Kelli O’Hara of “The King and I”—took home Tony Awards on Sunday, while a young man who just last year graduated from drama school won a Tony for best actor in a play.

Cerveris won his second Tony for playing the closeted and suicidal father at the heart of the moving musical based on Alison Bechdel’s graphic novel memoir.

O’Hara got her first Tony after six nominations, winning for her role as the English school teacher in a revival of the classic 1951 Rodgers and Hammerstein musical “The King and I.”

The London-born actor Alex Sharp won for the best lead actor in a play award for “The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time,” beating out Bradley Cooper and Bill Nighy.

“This time last year I was picked up my diploma graduating from Julliard, so to be holding this is insane. Thank you so, so much for this,” he said.

His win was part of a huge haul for the adaptation of Mark Haddon’s best-selling novel. It also won best play, lighting, scenic design and earned its director Marianne Elliott a Tony, too.

The British were having a

‘Curious Incident,’ ‘Fun Home’ big winners in Tony awards



AP
Kristin Chenoweth, left, and Peter Gallagher perform a number from “On the Twentieth Century” at the 69th annual Tony Awards at Radio City Music Hall on Sunday, June 7, 2015, in New York.

big night, with “Skylight” winning for best revival, and Helen Mirren nabbing her first Tony for playing Queen Elizabeth II

in Peter Morgan’s “The Audience.” She already won an Oscar for played the monarch in the movie “The Queen.”

“An American in Paris” had four technical awards, while “Fun Home” won for best score, book and direction. Its songwriters Jeanine Tesori and Lisa Kron became the first female writing team to nab a Tony for musical score. Sam Gold, the director of “Fun Home,” took home his first Tony.

Co-hosts Kristin Chenoweth and Alan Cumming opened the show with a low-key medley of jokes and songs that displayed their playful, daffy chemistry. Their costume quick-changes included Cumming in a hoop skirt and Chenoweth as E.T.

One of the show’s highlights was watching Joel Grey, who recently announced he was gay,

introducing “Fun Home” with his daughter, Jennifer Grey. She joked that the show was about a “brilliant and complicated father.” Joel Grey acknowledged that was something his daughter “knew something about.”

The telecast on CBS at Radio City Music Hall featured appearances by Jennifer Lopez, Sting, Jim Parsons, Amanda Seyfried, Kiefer Sutherland, Bryan Cranston, Sutton Foster, Jennifer Nettles, Taye Diggs and Ashley Tisdale, among many others. Some non-theater celebrities including Kendall Jenner, Monica Lewinsky and Anna Wintour were also in the audience.

Two Broadway favorites—Annaleigh Ashford and Christian Borle—won for best featured roles. He plays a sexy William Shakespeare in “Something Rotten!” and she played an incompetent ballet dancer in “You Can’t Take It With You.” It was her first and his second.

“I can’t believe I am standing here right now for the worst dancing that ever happened on Broadway,” Ashford said.

“The King and I” was crowned the best musical revival and it won for best musical costumes. One of its stars, Ruthie Ann Miles, won in her Broadway debut as best featured actress in a musical.

‘Fun Home’ songwriters become 1st winning female team

NEW YORK (AP)—“Fun Home” songwriters Jeanine Tesori and Lisa Kron have made history by becoming the first female writing team to nab a Tony for musical score.

Based on the autobiographical graphic novel by Alison Bechdel, “Fun Home” centers on a woman growing up in the family funeral home in a small Pennsylvania town.

The last time two women were even nominated for Tonys as composers was back in 1991 when Lucy Simon and Marsha Norman got the nod for “The Secret Garden.”

Composer Tesori is also the songwriter behind the Tony-nominated “Violet,” “Shrek the Musical” and “Caroline,



AP
In this April 29, 2015, file photo, Jeanine Tesori, left, and Lisa Kron, from “Fun Home,” attend the 2015 Tony Awards Meet the Nominees press junket in New York.

or Change” and lyricist Kron’s works include the Tony-nominated “Well,” “2.5 Minute Ride” and “In the Wake.”

“Fun Home” was a finalist for both the Pulitzer Prize for Drama and The Edward M. Kennedy Prize for Drama Inspired

by American History.

In “Fun Home,” three different actors play the Alison Bechdel character simultaneously throughout the show, with the adult version, played by Beth Malone, acting as the story’s narrator. The other two, Emily Skeggs and Sydney Lucas, playing a college student and child, respectively, provides clues to the realization she’s attracted to women.

Tesori and Kron now join such winning writing teams as Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II, Jerry Bock and Sheldon Harnick, Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice, Frederick Loewe and Alan Jay Lerner, Charles Strouse and Martin Chamin, and John Kander and Fred Ebb.

SIDEBAR

Select list of 2015 Tony Award winners

NEW YORK (AP)—Select winners for the 2015 American Theatre Wing’s Tony Awards:

Best Musical: “Fun Home”

Best Play: “The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time”

Best Book of a Musical: “Fun Home”

Best Original Score (Music and/or Lyrics) Written for the Theater: “Fun Home”

Best Revival of a Play: “Skylight”

Best Revival of a Musical: “The King and I”

Best Performance by an Actor in a Leading Role in a Play: Alex Sharp, “The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time”

Best Performance by an Actress in a Leading Role in a Play: Helen Mirren, “The Audience”

Best Performance by an Actor in a Leading Role in a Musical: Michael Cerveris, “Fun Home”

Best Performance by an Actress in a Leading Role in a Musical: Kelli O’Hara, “The King and I”

Best Performance by an Actor in a Featured Role in a Play: Richard McCabe, “The Audience”

Best Performance by an Actress in a Featured Role in a Play: Annaleigh Ashford, “You Can’t Take It With You”

Best Performance by an Actor in a Featured Role in a Musical: Christian Borle, “Something Rotten!”

Best Performance by an Actress in a Featured Role in a Musical: Ruthie Ann Miles, “The King and I”

Apologies issued for abuse lawsuit filed vs. Hollywood execs

By **DAN JOLING**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Attorneys who sued on behalf of a former aspiring actor, claiming he was abused by two Hollywood executives, have apologized for the lawsuits and say they believe the allegations were untrue.

In letters issued last week, attorney Jeffrey Herman of Boca Raton, Florida, apologized to television executives Garth Ancier and David Neuman for lawsuits claiming that they had abused Michael Egan in 1999.

The lawsuits were filed in Hawaii in April 2014. They claimed Egan had been abused there and in California.

“Based on what I know now, I believe that I participated in making what I now know to be untrue and proveably false allegations against you,” Herman said in separate letters Friday to Ancier and Neuman.

“I deeply regret the pain, suffering and damage the lawsuits and publicity have caused you, and your family, friends and colleagues,” Herman wrote.

Attorney Mark Gallagher of Kailua, Hawaii, apologized to Ancier for his role in the lawsuit. “Unfortunately, I now do not believe that the allegations in the lawsuit were true and accurate,” he wrote.

The apologies were ac-

companied by unspecified monetary compensation. The payment was “in the seven figures,” according to a spokesman for Ancier.

Ancier was a high-ranking executive at the NBC, Fox and WB networks. Neuman is a former TV executive with Current TV and Disney.

Egan claimed the men abused him in Hawaii in 1999 when he was 17. Egan also sued “X-Men” director Bryan Singer and Gary Wayne Goddard, a theater producer.

All four denied the allegations as soon as the lawsuits were filed. Singer and Ancier said they weren’t even in Ha-

waii when Egan said he was abused.

Ancier and Neuman eventually countersued Egan for malicious prosecution.

The lawsuits against Neuman and Ancier were dismissed in June 2014. The lawsuits against Singer and Goddard were dropped by Egan around the same time.

In a prepared statement, Ancier said the attorneys who brought the false claim were making a significant financial payment for bringing a case that didn’t have any merit, finally proving that “a convicted scam artist’s claims” were entirely made up.

Mirren wins Tony best actress

NEW YORK (AP)—Helen Mirren, who starred this season in a familiar and regal role, has won her first Tony Award.

Mirren won for playing a sly and polished Queen Elizabeth II in Peter Morgan’s “The Audience.”

She beat out Geneva Carr in “Hand to God,” Elisabeth Moss from “The Heidi Chronicles,” Carey Mulligan in “Skylight” and Ruth Wilson of “Constellations.”

The “Prime Suspect” star

was initially reluctant to play the queen since she’d already portrayed Queen Elizabeth II in the movie “The Queen,” another Morgan-written story set after the 1997 death of Princess Diana.

That changed somewhat when she read Morgan’s clever script for “The Audience,” which imagines the private weekly meetings between the monarch and Britain’s prime ministers over her six-decade reign.

McCarthy's 'Spy' tops with \$30M; 'Entourage' lags

NEW YORK (AP)—Melissa McCarthy left the guys of "Entourage" in the dust, landing her first No. 1 box-office debut as a leading lady with an estimated \$30 million weekend for the espionage comedy "Spy."

1. **"Spy,"** \$30 million (\$25.6 million international).
2. **"San Andreas,"** \$26.4 million (\$97.8 million international).
3. **"Insidious: Chapter 3,"** \$23 million (\$14.3 million international).
4. **"Entourage,"** \$10.4 million (\$3 million international).
5. **"Mad Max: Fury Road,"** \$8 million (\$11 million international).
6. **"Pitch Perfect 2,"** \$7.7 million (\$4.6 million international).
7. **"Tomorrowland,"** \$7 million (\$13.8 million international).
8. **"Avengers: Age of Ultron,"** \$6.2 million (\$7 million international).
9. **"Aloha,"** \$3.3 million (\$1.6 million international).
10. **"Poltergeist,"** \$2.8 million (\$3.2 million international).

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at international theaters (excluding the U.S. and Canada), according to Rentrak:

1. **"San Andreas,"** \$97.8 million.
2. **"Spy,"** \$25.6 million.
3. **"Insidious: Chapter 3,"** \$14.3 million.
4. **"Tomorrowland,"** \$13.8 million.
5. **"Stand by Me Doraemon,"** \$12.5 million.
6. **"Mad Max: Fury Road,"** \$11 million.
7. **"Avengers: Age of Ultron,"** \$7 million.
8. **"Pitch Perfect 2,"** \$4.6 million.
9. **"Poltergeist,"** \$3.2 million.
10. **"Entourage,"** \$3 million.

The result added to the string of successes for McCarthy and writer-director Paul Feig, who first united on the 2011 hit "Bridesmaids." While "Spy" fell short of the \$39.1 million debut of their 2013 comedy "The Heat," with Sandra Bullock, and came in a tad lower than some predicted, it was good enough to win a weekend lacking blockbuster punch but crowded with action, horror and the resurrected HBO series.

"It sets the table for a fantastic long run," said Chris Aronson, head of distribution for 20th Century Fox.

The R-rated, action-heavy "Spy," made for about \$65 mil-

lion, will depend on word-of-mouth and its generally glowing reviews to propel it further in the coming weeks. The film, in which McCarthy plays a desk-bound CIA officer sent into a James Bond-like European caper, has already made \$56.5 million overseas.

Last week's top film, "San Andreas," the disaster movie starring Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson, slid to second place with \$26.4 million. "Insidious: Chapter 3" opened with an estimated \$23 million, a strong debut for the low-budget horror prequel from Jason Blum's Blumhouse Productions.

But HBO's "Entourage,"

made for about \$30 million, failed to compete with those releases. The film, released about four years after the series concluded, made \$10.4 million over the weekend and has brought in a five-day total of \$17.8 million since opening Wednesday.

Dan Fellman, head of distribution for Warner Bros., said advance tracking for the film had been soft and that comparisons to "Sex and the City"—another post-finale HBO adaptation—weren't accurate. That 2008 release opened with \$57 million.

Paul Dergarabedian, senior

media analyst for box-office tracker Rentrak said that while the individual results for the weekend likely meant profitability for their distributors, the marketplace is suffering from a lack of momentum after a string of lackluster weekends, particularly a weak Memorial Day holiday when Disney's "Tomorrowland" opened flatly.

"This is our third down weekend in a row. It takes some wind out of our sails," Dergarabedian said. "We need a hit like 'Jurassic World' and we needed it yesterday."

Universal's "Jurassic World" opens Friday with expectations of a \$100 million-plus opening.

In a medium-sized release, the acclaimed Lionsgate, Roadside Attractions drama "Love & Mercy," which stars Paul Dano and John Cusack as Brian Wilson, opened with \$2.2 million on 483 screens.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Rentrak. Where available, the latest international numbers for Friday through Sunday are also included. Final domestic figures will be released Monday.



This photo provided by Twentieth Century Fox shows, Melissa McCarthy, as Susan Cooper, a CIA analyst, who volunteers to go deep undercover to infiltrate the world of a deadly arms dealer, and prevent a global disaster, in a scene from the film, "Spy."

Report: Police shoot tear gas to disperse concert crowd

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J.

(AP)—New Jersey State Police blocking gates outside of a major hip-hop concert Sunday night at MetLife Stadium had bottles thrown at them by angry people in the crowd who were trying to get inside—some without tickets—and they later used tear gas to try to disperse them, according to officials.

Crowds at the Hot 97 Summer Jam concert became upset when the gates were closed and blocked off by police in riot gear. An armored state police vehicle began blasting a piercing loud noise to try to disperse the crowd and police later deployed tear gas.

Additional troops were sent for "crowd control" and arrests have been made, a police spokesman, Sgt. Gregory Williams, told The Associated Press. State police didn't release details about what measures they used to disperse the crowd.

The disturbance began when crowds of people tried to "illegally" force their way into the sold out event by climbing over fences and forcing their way through security, state police said in a statement Sunday night. Police said they insisted that everyone outside of the gate leave the stadium complex



AP

Fans at the Hot 97 Summer Jam concert confront police officers outside the MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford, N.J., Sunday, June 7, 2015.

to avoid congestion when the concert ended.

Videos and photos posted by people outside of the stadium on social media showed fights between concert goers and police in riot gear blocking the entrance. Images also showed police using large military-style vehicles to try to disperse the crowds.

Janae Griffin, who drove up from Baltimore for the concert but wasn't able to get inside, said the parking lots outside were chaotic.

"People were throwing bot-

ties across the crowd," she said. "We got into a confrontation with a guy who was deliberately trying to vandalize a police car and was just making it worse of a situation than it needed to be."

The major concert is hosted annually by a New York radio station and was headlined Sunday by Kendrick Lamar, Trey Songz, Big Sean and Chris Brown.

Emmis New York, which owns Hot 97, said in a statement that refunds will be offered for ticket holders whose tickets were not scanned.

Meet comments about biracial child with humor and pride

DEAR ABBY: May I comment on the letter from "Open-Minded in Pennsylvania" (3/6), the adoptive mother of a biracial child who asked for a witty comeback for strangers' comments/questions? This is a rare teaching moment! If a parent reacts with the slightest hint of displeasure, the child will think the parent is displeased with her/him.

We adopted a daughter of a different race 29 years ago. When I received comments/questions from acquaintances and strangers, my face would light up, and I'd respond, "Oh, we adopted her! She is Filipino! We are so blessed to have her in our lives!" Usually, the person would smile and say something positive. The rare times someone didn't, we would hurry on with a wave and a smile, and I would hug her close.

Our daughter has grown up proud of her ethnic background and knowing she's special. She is now married and the proud mother of two biracial children.

JUDY IN TEXAS

DEAR JUDY: You handled the situation beautifully. I heard from a slew of adoptive parents after printing that letter. Let me share some of their comments:

DEAR ABBY: Thirty years ago, we adopted two baby girls of a different race from ours. Our adoption social worker gave us some

insightful advice about what to do when someone made a bigoted or ignorant remark. She said:

"Always remember your child is watching you to see how she is supposed to feel about what has just happened. If you become upset and defensive, your children will feel that way too and begin to believe something is 'wrong' about them and your family. So take the role of teacher and educate the ignorant person. Keep it light, add humor if you can, and then chuckle later with your child and other family members about the silly dumbness of a few people in the world." It worked for us.

ANTONIA, MOTHER OF TWO

DEAR ABBY: When my adopted son from Bogota, Colombia, was about 4 months old, we were shopping for groceries one day. A woman approached our cart and asked, "Where is he from?" I smiled and replied, "Heaven!"

KATHY IN NEW YORK

DEAR ABBY: I employ a strategy I learned from your column. I face the questioner with a smile and say, "I am stunned that you would ask such a personal thing!" The look on the asker's face is priceless. And it makes it quite clear that I have no obligation to respond to anything someone may choose to ask. To that mother: Hold your head high, radiate pride in your precious child, and

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



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■■■

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James carries Cavs to OT win over Warriors, evens Finals

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—The final buzzer sounded, and LeBron James wasn't done.

As fans filed out of the quieting arena, James grabbed the ball and spiked it with all his might. He flexed his arms and pounded his chest, letting out a roar that echoed from California to Cleveland.

James turned in a triple-double to remember, Matthew Dellavedova made the go-ahead free throws in overtime, and the Cavaliers overcame a fourth-quarter collapse to outlast the Golden State Warriors 95-93 on Sunday night to even the NBA Finals at a game apiece.

James finished with 39 points, 16 rebounds and 11 assists in 50 minutes, carrying Cleveland's depleted roster to victory on the NBA's toughest home floor. The Warriors had been 47-3 at ear-piercing Oracle Arena.

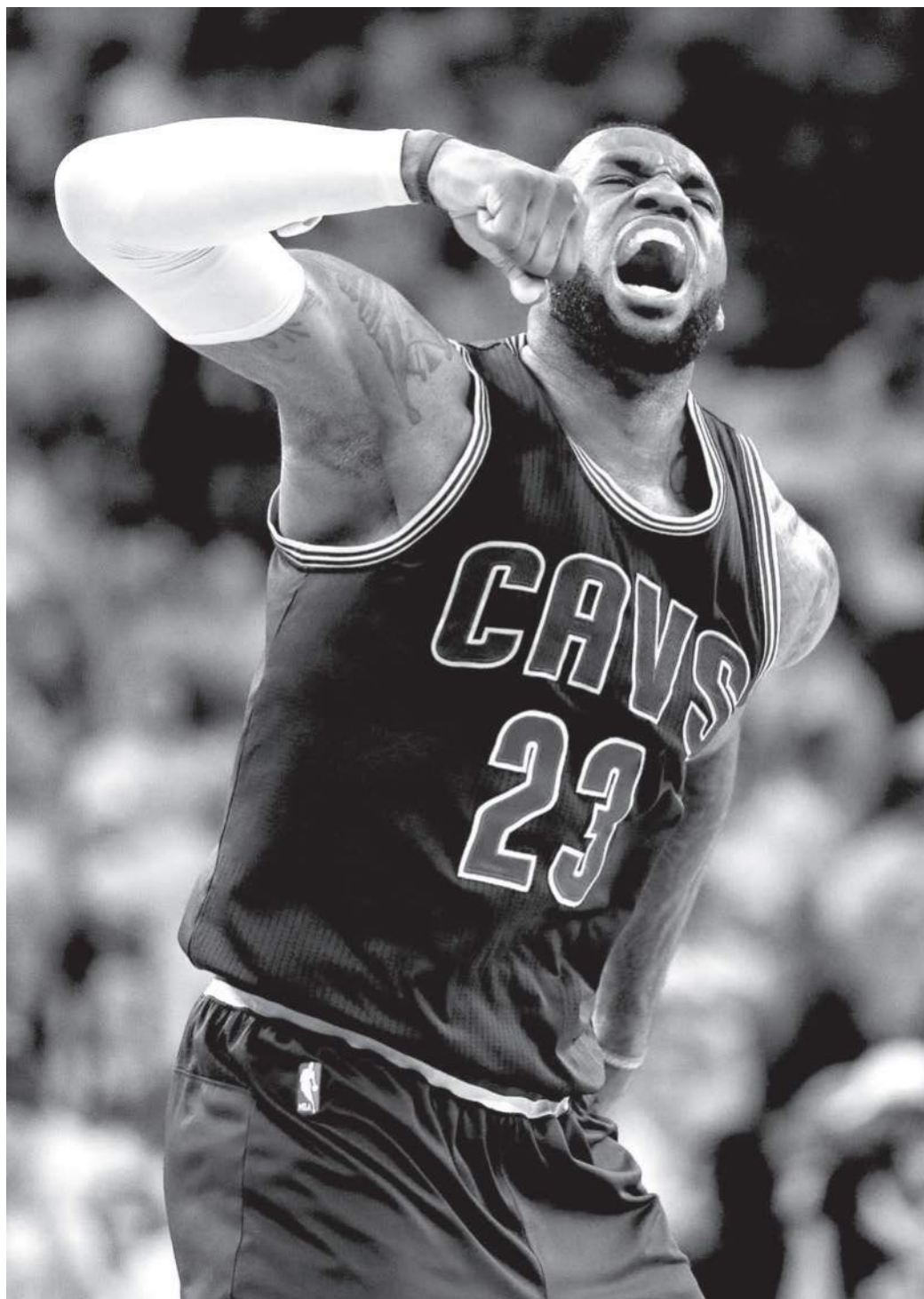
"I tried to give it all to my teammates. And they do a great job of giving it back to me. Total team effort," said James, who shot 11 of 35 from the floor and seemed to wear down as the game dragged on. "To be back in the same position we were in three days ago and to come back and even the series is big time."

It was the second straight overtime game, and one the Cavs never should've let happen.

Stephen Curry had a horrific shooting performance but converted the tying layup for the Warriors late in regulation. The MVP also put Golden State in front 93-92 on free throws with 29.5 seconds left in overtime.

Then, Draymond Green met James at the rim to block his left-handed layup, but the Cavs retained possession. After James Jones missed a 3-pointer, Dellavedova grabbed the rebound and was fouled.

"That's the classic thing you



Cleveland Cavaliers forward LeBron James (23) celebrates after end of the overtime period of Game 2 of basketball's NBA Finals against the Golden State Warriors in Oakland, Calif., Sunday, June 7, 2015.

practice as a kid growing up," Dellavedova said. "I felt like I've been in that situation a million times before."

Dellavedova made both to put Cleveland up with 10.1 sec-

onds to play. Curry air-balled a jumper contested by Dellavedova, James got the rebound and hit one of two free throws with 4.4 seconds left.

After James made his free

throw, Curry, without a timeout, raced up court and tried to pass ahead to Klay Thompson. But Iman Shumpert batted the ball away to seal the Cavs' win. Game 3 is Tuesday night in

Cleveland.

It was a pivotal point for the Cavs, who won their first finals game in franchise history. They were swept by the Spurs in their only other appearance in 2007, when James was just growing into the planet's best player.

Cleveland was staring at a major deficit again. Teams with a 2-0 lead have gone on to win 28 of 31 series.

Now that's one thing the Cavs won't have to overcome.

James is still left trying to carry Cleveland to its first championship in 51 years after Kyrie Irving fractured his left kneecap in Game 1. Irving had surgery in Cleveland on Saturday to join sidelined starters Kevin Love and Anderson Varejao, both of whom had already been lost for the season with injuries.

He got a little help this time.

Timofey Mozgov had 17 points and 11 rebounds but sat out a lot late in the fourth quarter and overtime when the Warriors went to a smaller lineup. J.R. Smith scored 13 points and Dellavedova had nine.

Cavs coach David Blatt went with the same lineup that won Games 2 and 3 of the Eastern Conference finals when Irving was out with an injured knee. He started Dellavedova in Irving's place, and the scrappy Australian corralled Curry as much as anybody has this season.

Curry scored 19 points and shot 5 of 23 from the floor, including 2 of 15 from 3-point range, and had six turnovers.

"Shots I normally make I knew as soon as they left my hand that they were off. That doesn't usually happen," Curry said. "Mechanically, I don't know if there is an explanation for it, just didn't have a rhythm and didn't find one the whole game."

Klay Thompson tried to pick up the backcourt slack, scoring

34 points. But the Warriors went 8 for 35 from long range and shot 39.8 percent overall.

The Cavs, who shot 32.2 percent, outrebounded the Warriors 55 to 45. It was the lowest shooting percentage for a winning team in the playoffs since at least 1984-85.

"It's the grit squad right now," James said. "If you expect us to play sexy cute basketball, that's not us right now. Everything is tough and it has to be that for rest of series."

James sat for just 52 seconds in the first half and got two quick breaks in the third quarter. He nearly had to stay on the sideline when Green hit him the face as drove hard for a layup in the fourth quarter.

James dropped to a knee near the baseline and walked gingerly to the bench, where he sat with his head down before returning to make both free throws. He seemed to deliver the dagger with a pull-up 3-pointer to extend the Cavs' lead to 83-72 with 3:13 to play in the fourth quarter. He stopped and turned to Cleveland's bench, taking out his mouthpiece and staring at the stunned and silent crowd.

But Golden State gave its fervent fans more reason to cheer.

Curry broke his 18-minute scoring drought with a 3-pointer during the Warriors' furious rally, which he finished with a tying finger-roll with 7.2 seconds remaining.

Cleveland called timeout, and got James the ball isolated on Andre Iguodala at the top of the key. James drove hard to his left and his layup rimmed out, and Tristan Thompson's tip missed to send the game to overtime.

"This is the finals. It's hard. It's supposed to be hard," Warriors coach Steve Kerr said. "We had a tough night. So you have to move on. You've got to learn from it and get better, and that's what we're going to do."



DUBLIN, Ohio (AP)—David Lingmerth stood over a short par putt on the third playoff hole at the Memorial and finally knew exactly what it meant.

An hour earlier, he looked like a winner when he signed for a 3-under 69 and watched on TV as Justin Rose hit a shank out of a bunker that plunked a spectator in the head and left him 55 yards short of the pin in a nasty lie. Rose needed to make par or Lingmerth would win.

"I saw where his second shot ended up and I thought, 'You know what? That could be a hard up-and-down.' But he hit a beautiful chip shot in there," Lingmerth said.

On the first playoff hole, Rose chipped out of deep rough behind the green to 20 feet, leaving a difficult putt that swung hard to the left. Lingmerth had

Lingmerth doesn't crack and wins the Memorial

10 feet for par and figured that would be for the win.

"And then he drops it in ... and this big, huge roar," Lingmerth said of Rose's putt. "Crazy feeling."

He calmed himself and made the biggest putt of his career just to stay alive.

Rose finally made one mistake too many—a drive on No. 10 into the right rough, a fairway metal into the gallery on the left, a chip down the slope some 18 feet by the hole and he still had just under 5 feet for bogey when Lingmerth settled over the winning putt.

Make it and he's a PGA Tour winner for the first time.

"I can't believe it," Lingmerth said after it dropped for par and he gave a soft fist pump, more emotion than he had shown amid all the pressure of Sunday. "I'm so happy right now I don't know where to go."

The first stop was a handshake with tournament host Jack Nicklaus. He goes to the Masters next April for the first time. He has a three-year exemption on the PGA Tour.

And it only got better.

Sunday was his father's birthday (and his parents' anniversary), and Lingmerth's wife used FaceTime so Thomas as Lingmerth could watch the press conference of his son sitting next to a crystal trophy as Nicklaus raved about the performance.

And when it was over, Lingmerth handed the phone to Nicklaus, who spoke to the Swede's father and wished him a happy birthday.

It was the biggest smile Lingmerth showed all day.

His first PGA Tour victory didn't come easily.

Rose began the final round with a three-shot lead and was

going for his eighth victory over the last five years. That was gone in four holes, and Rose had to scramble just to get back into the hunt, and made that par save from deep rough for a 72 to force a playoff.

Masters champion Jordan Spieth chipped in twice—for birdie and for eagle—in his closing round of 65 to reach 13-under 275, and he hung around for two hours to see if it would be good enough for a playoff. It took a long time to get his answer.

Francesco Molinari of Italy reached 15 under with an 18-foot birdie putt on the 14th hole, where Rose made bogey from a bunker. Lingmerth joined him in the group ahead with a birdie on the 15th. Rose made birdie on the 15th for a three-way tie.

Lingmerth finished with three pars and was the first to post at

273. Molinari dropped out with an 8-iron that failed to clear the water on the par-3 16th, leading to double bogey. Rose had such a wild Sunday that he had six pars, six bogeys and six birdies on his card.

The winning putt for Lingmerth came on No. 10. The most important putt was on No. 18, the 10-footer he made to match the 20-foot par that Rose knocked in.

"He needs to look back at that putt that kept it going on the first extra hole," Rose said. "He did everything he needed to."

Spieth wound up in a tie for third, a good finish that gives him momentum going to the U.S. Open.

Tiger Woods showed improvement—it was hard not to after a career-worst 85 on Saturday. He shot 74 and finished last, 29 shots behind, with his worst 72-hole score (302) in his

PGA Tour career.

"I did not win, and I wasn't even close," Woods said. "So hopefully in two weeks' time, things will be a lot better and I'll be ready to try to win a U.S. Open."

The next step for Lingmerth was to try to qualify for the U.S. Open.

As if 21 holes were not enough, Lingmerth faced a 36-hole qualifier for the U.S. Open on Monday. He moved to No. 71 in the world, and only the top 60 are eligible after next week. The forecast was for rain. The possibility was for the qualifier to be stretched into Tuesday, if it even starts.

Lingmerth could use a day off to let sink in all that happened at Muirfield Village.

"Boy, did he play well coming down the stretch?" Nicklaus said.

Lingmerth smiled at words that, considering the source, were almost as valuable as the trophy.

Sabathia sharp before ejection; Yankees sweep Angels, 6-2



NEW YORK (AP)—CC Sabathia pitched six sharp innings before being ejected for arguing balls and strikes and Brett Gardner hit a tiebreaking, three-run homer Sunday as the New York Yankees won their season-high sixth straight game, 6-2 over the Los Angeles Angels.

Jose Pirela hit his first MLB homer and Chris Young also connected off C.J. Wilson (3-5) for New York, which came back to win after building big leads in the first two games of the series. The Yankees swept the Angels, losers of five in a row, in a series of at least three games for the first time since 2003.

Sabathia (3-7) gave up back-to-back homers to Mike Trout and Albert Pujols in the first inning but then breezed through a struggling Angles lineup the rest of the way, notching his 2,500th career strikeout in the fifth.

Rays 3, Mariners 1

In Seattle, Chris Archer became the first pitcher in more than 100 years to reach double-digits in strikeouts without a walk in three straight starts, leading Tampa Bay over Seattle.

Archer (7-4) fanned 11 with zero walks in seven innings. No other pitcher had managed such a streak since 1914.

Archer had five three-ball counts and gave up six hits, along with an unearned run. After striking out 12 against Seattle on May 27 and 15 against the Angels last Tuesday, he won his fourth straight decision overall.

Kevin Jepsen pitched the ninth for his fourth save of the season and third in the four-game series.

Mike Montgomery (0-1) pitched well against his former club, but got little run support.

Cardinals 4, Dodgers 2

In Los Angeles, Jhonny Peralta homered and singled home the go-ahead run during a three-run eighth inning, leading the St. Louis Cardinals to a 4-2 victory over the Los Angeles Dodgers on Sunday.

Matt Carpenter drew a leadoff walk from reliever Adam Liberatore, and scored the tying run on a triple down the right-field line by Matt Holliday that skipped past Yasiel Puig — who was playing his second game after missing 39 because of a strained left hamstring.

Holliday's hit came off Juan Nicasio (1-2). Peralta, who leads St. Louis with 34 RBIs, followed with his clutch hit and scored on Mark Reynolds' one-out double to left-center.

Kevin Siegrist (3-0) pitched one inning for the victory. Trevor Rosenthal, the sixth Cardinals pitcher, threw a perfect ninth for his 19th save in 20 attempts.

Phillies 6, Giants 4

In Philadelphia, pinch-hitter Jeff Francoeur drove in two runs with a two-out double in the seventh inning to help Philadelphia beat San Francisco and stave off a series sweep.

Freddy Galvis led off the inning with a single. After another hit and a double play, Ben Revere worked a walk to set the stage for Francoeur. He hit a pitch from San Francisco reliever Javier Lopez into the left-field corner, scoring Galvis and Revere.

Right-hander Ken Giles (2-1) earned the victory, getting five outs. He struck out the side in the eighth inning for the Phillies, who ended a three-game losing streak. Jonathan Papelbon allowed



Teamates hold back New York Yankees starting pitcher CC Sabathia, right, as manager Joe Girardi, second from left, argues with umpire Dan Bellino, left, during the sixth inning of a baseball game against the Los Angeles Angels, Sunday, June 7, 2015, in New York. Both Sabathia and Girardi were ejected from the game.

a run in the ninth inning, but managed his 12th save in as many opportunities.

Maikel Franco hit a solo home run in the bottom of the eighth inning, his sixth of the season, to give the Phillies an extra insurance run.

Royals 4, Rangers 3

In Kansas City, Missouri, Salvador Perez hit a solo home run with two outs in the eighth inning, lifting Kansas City over Texas.

Perez hit his eighth homer, sending a pitch from Keone Kela (4-2) into the Royals' bullpen.

Wade Davis (3-1) picked up the victory, working around Prince Fielder's double in the eighth. Greg Holland pitched a perfect ninth for his ninth save in 10 opportunities.

Mets 6, Diamondbacks 3

In Phoenix, Curtis Granderson hit two of New York's three leadoff homers, Jacob deGrom struck out 10 in seven effective innings and the Mets bashed their way past Arizona.

Granderson led off the game with a home run, had another to start the fifth and the Mets hit four homers off Josh Collmenter (3-6) in six innings to earn a four-game split.

Eric Campbell hit a two-run homer in the second inning and Wilmer Flores led off the sixth with a solo shot. Juan Lagares had three hits and deGrom (7-4) recovered after a shaky first inning to win his fourth straight decision.

Jeurys Familia worked a perfect ninth for his 17th save, aided by fine defensive plays from Lagares and Flores.

Cubs 6, Nationals 3

In Washington, Kris Bryant tripled, doubled, singled and scored twice as Chicago sent Washington to its eighth loss in 10 games.

Jason Motte pitched a perfect ninth for his first save since 2012, when he led the National League with 42 for St. Louis before getting hurt. Closer Hector Rondon threw a perfect eighth—a day earlier, manager Joe Maddon said he might put the right-hander in some

lower-pressure situations to get settled.

Chris Coghlan and Starlin Castro both had two hits and two RBIs, helping the Cubs take three of four in the series. The Nationals fell out of the NL East division lead, passed by the New York Mets.

Kyle Hendricks (2-2) went five innings, giving up three runs and six hits.

Jordan Zimmermann (5-3) had won his last four decisions. He began this game 1-4 lifetime against the Cubs, and ran into more trouble, giving up four runs on 10 hits in five innings.

Red Sox 7, Athletics 4

In Boston, Rusney Castillo hit a solo homer and an RBI single during a seven-run rally in the eighth inning that sent Boston over Oakland for a three-game sweep.

Xander Bogaerts delivered a go-ahead, two-run double. The Red Sox got eight hits in the comeback before ambidextrous Pat Venditte, Oakland's fifth pitcher of the inning, got the last out.

Steven Wright (3-2) pitched 3 1-3 innings of shutout relief for the win. Tommy Layne threw a perfect ninth for his first save.

Kendall Graveman took a shutout into the eighth inning before Castillo led off with a homer. Bogaerts doubled off Tyler Clippard (0-3) and Castillo's single capped the scoring.

Blue Jays 7, Astros 6

In Toronto, Chris Colabello extended his hitting streak with a two-run single that capped a ninth-inning rally, and Toronto beat Houston for its fifth straight win.

Jose Bautista hit a pair of solo homers and Russell Martin added a two-run shot for Toronto, which scored three times in the ninth to complete a three-game sweep. Colabello's game-ending single increased his hitting streak to 17 games, the longest active run in the majors.

Liam Hendriks (1-0) pitched two innings for the win.

Luke Gregerson (2-1) was handed his second blown save in 17 chances.

Pinch-hitter Munenori Kawasaki doubled to begin the ninth and scored on a single by Jose Reyes.

Pirates 3, Braves 0

In Atlanta, Gerrit Cole pitched seven strong innings to win his fourth straight start, Starling Marte had a two-run single in the three-run fifth inning as Pittsburgh beat Atlanta.

Cole, the first overall draft pick of 2011, became the first Pirate since Emil Yde in 1924-25 with 30 victories in 53 or fewer career starts.

Cole (9-2) allowed six hits, three walks and struck out seven, throwing 74 of his 116 pitches for strikes. He leads the National League in victories and with a 1.73 ERA. His 13 victories over his last 17 starts lead the majors over that span.

Mark Melancon earned his 18th save in 19 chances, facing the minimum in the ninth by getting pinch-hitter Pedro Ciriaco to fly out and striking out Jace Peterson and Cameron Maybin.

Alex Wood (4-3) took the loss. He was ejected in the fifth inning for arguing balls and strikes.

Tigers 6, White Sox 4

In Chicago, Yoenis Cespedes and J.D. Martinez homered in the sixth inning to power Detroit past Chicago.

The Tigers have won consecutive games after dropping eight straight, their longest skid since 2005.

Alfredo Simon (6-3) struck out seven and allowed four runs—one earned—in eight innings. Joakim Soria earned his 16th save in 18 chances.

Detroit finished with 10 hits after getting 18 on Saturday. The middle of the order—Cespedes, Tyler Collins and Martinez—combined for eight hits and six RBIs.

The Tigers rallied with three runs in the sixth on homers by Cespedes and Martinez, who had three RBIs.

Cespedes cut Detroit's deficit to 4-3 with a solo shot, his eighth. Two batters later, Martinez hit a two-run drive, his 10th.

Cespedes added an RBI single in

the eighth.

Avisail Garcia homered for the last-place White Sox.

Reds 4, Padres 0

In Cincinnati, Jay Bruce homered twice to drive in all four runs and Johnny Cueto earned his first win in almost a month, leading Cincinnati over San Diego.

Cueto and relievers J.J. Hoover and Aroldis Chapman combined to retire the last 15 batters, helping the Reds avoid a sweep.

Cueto (4-4) gave up four hits in seven innings, striking out nine and walking two. It was his first win since May 9.

The right-hander made his second start since missing two outings because of inflammation in his pitching elbow. Last year, he became the Reds' first 20-game winner since 1988.

Odrisamer Despaigne (3-4) lasted six innings. The Padres had won six straight over the Reds since May 2014.

Orioles 7, Indians 3

In Cleveland, Matt Wieters hit his first home run in more than a year and Bud Norris won in his return from the disabled list as Baltimore beat Cleveland.

Adam Jones also went deep to help the Orioles take two of three in the series. They have won three of four after losing five in a row.

Wieters, the MLB All-Star catcher who returned Friday from Tommy John surgery last season, connected in the ninth for his first home run since May 1, 2014. He was 5 for 12 with three RBIs in the series.

Norris (2-4) was activated before the game after missing a month with bronchitis. He allowed one run and struck out seven in five innings to win for the first time since April 26.

Marlins 3, Rockies 2, 10 innings

In Denver, Adeiny Hechavarria hit a two-out homer in the 10th inning, lifting Miami to a win over Colorado.

Hechavarria drove a slider from reliever Boone Logan (0-2) into the trees in straightaway center field. It was Hechavarria's first homer since April 25.

Marcell Ozuna had a two-out, two-run single in the first inning to help the Marlins take two of three in the series.

Carlos Gonzalez tied the game at 2 in the seventh with a solo homer. The Rockies had a chance in the ninth with two outs and runners on first and second, but Sam Dyson (3-2) got pinch-hitter Ben Paulsen to ground out.

Twins 2, Brewers 0

In Minneapolis, Mike Pelfrey pitched eight strong innings, his longest outing in three years, and Minnesota avoided a series sweep by beating Milwaukee.

Eddie Rosario and Eduardo Escobar had RBIs for the Twins, who otherwise struggled with runners on base. Glen Perkins worked a scoreless ninth for his MLB-leading 21st save in as many chances.

Pelfrey (5-2) allowed eight hits and struck out seven. He has yielded only three earned runs over his last four starts, spanning 28 innings. This was his longest performance since April 21, 2012—his last outing before Tommy John surgery.

Minnesota, which entered fourth in the majors with a .298 batting average with runners in scoring position, finished 2 for 12 in those situations after going 1 for 6 on Saturday.

Saipan Int'l Fishing Tournament on July 25-26

The Saipan Fishermen's Association will stage the 31st Annual Saipan International Fishing Tournament on July 25-26, 2015.

Last year more than 60 boats and 200 fishermen and crew from Guam, Rota, Tinian and the hosting island competed in the two-day fishing derby. Team GORU of Guam earned the championship title by catching a 276-lb marlin. GORU boat captain Frank Roberto and his 12-year-old son Aaron are expected to return to Saipan to defend their title in this year's SFA tournament.

Game fish categories are: Bill Fish (1st -3rd), Yellow Fin (1st -3rd), Wahoo (1st -3rd), Mahi Mahi (1st -3rd), and Skipjack (1st -3rd).

"The SFA is hoping to continue making the event prizes attractive, as this year will mark the 31st year of the tournament," said Martin Duenas, SFA PR and Ad chairman.

The registration cost is \$150 per boat, inclusive of a captain and one crewmember. Each additional angler is \$25.

As a requirement, the Department of Public Safety's Boating Safety Unit will again conduct boat safety inspections. Participants needing to have their boat inspected during the week of July 20 to 24, 2015, should contact the Boating Safety office at (670) 664-9180 to arrange for an appointment.

To ensure the success of this year's derby, the SFA will produce a souvenir tournament program booklet, to be provided to all participating captains and crewmembers. With an average crew of four, plus their families, and other supporters, tournament sponsors will receive added publicity exposure.

Tournament entry forms, rules and a schedule of events are now available at the Marianas Visitors Authority office



Boat captain Frank Roberto, second from right, son Aaron Roberto, third from left, and another crewmember pose with their winning catch, a 276-lb. Marlin, at the 2014 Saipan International Fishing Tournament.

and Fishing Tackle in Susupe. For more information about the event, contact Ed Diaz at the MVA at 664-3200 or log on to the SFA website at www.sfacnmi.com. (MVA)

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	32	25	.561	—
Tampa Bay	31	27	.534	1½
Toronto	28	s30	.483	4½
Boston	27	31	.466	5½
Baltimore	26	30	.464	5½

Central Division

Minnesota	33	23	.589	—
Kansas City	31	23	.574	1
Detroit	30	28	.517	4
Cleveland	27	29	.482	6
Chicago	25	30	.455	7½

West Division

Houston	34	24	.586	—
Texas	30	27	.526	3½
Los Angeles	28	29	.491	5½
Seattle	25	32	.439	8½
Oakland	23	36	.390	11½

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

New York	31	27	.534	—
Washington	30	27	.526	½
Atlanta	27	29	.482	3
Miami	24	33	.421	6½
Philadelphia	22	36	.379	9

Central Division

St. Louis	38	19	.667	—
Pittsburgh	31	25	.554	6½
Chicago	30	25	.545	7
Cincinnati	24	31	.436	13
Milwaukee	20	37	.351	18

West Division

Los Angeles	32	25	.561	—
San Francisco	32	26	.552½	
San Diego	29	29	.500	3½
Arizona	27	29	.482	4½
Colorado	25	30	.455	6AC

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Plumeria Swim: New name and format for old event

No more Swimming Festival or Saipan International Open Water Flipper Tournament. The Marianas Visitors Authority has decided on a new name, location, and format for the annual signature event: the Plumeria Swim in Saipan set for Pau Pau Beach on June 20.

"Now that we've relocating the swim from Managaha to Saipan, it was a good time to take up a name that was more inviting and tropical for our

visitors," said MVA Community Projects manager Martin Duenas. "Plumeria Swim in Saipan also fits perfectly with our new location, as 'paupau' means 'fragrant' in Chamorro, just like a plumeria flower."

In addition, the event now has four race categories and welcomes swimmers with or without flippers. The race categories are: 500m swim, 1.5km swim, 2 km relay swim, or 1.5k flipper race. A 500-me-

ter triangle course will be set on the day of the event.

"With the new location and several course options, we hope to see more participation this year," said Duenas. "It's all about showcasing and enjoying our beautiful waters here in the Northern Marianas."

The race will begin at 6am, followed by an island-style breakfast and awards ceremony at the beach. The flip-

per race requires swimmers to must use wetsuits or life jacket and fins along with mask and snorkels.

The cost is \$25 for Northern Mariana Islands residents with valid I.D. for the 1.5km flipper race, or \$20 for the 1.5K swim, 500m swim, or for each member of the relay team (up to four members per team). The deadline to register with the MVA is June 19, 2015. Mandatory orientation

will be held from 4:30-5:30pm on June 19, 2015, at Paseo de Marianas. Participants must be in good health with snorkeling or diving experience.

The event is jointly organized by the MVA and the Community Sports Center Foundation of Japan.

For more information or an application, visit the MVA Events Calendar at www.mymarianas.com or call Ed Diaz at 664-3210. (MVA)

WAWRINKA

From Page 28

silver plate given to the losing finalist, the spectators gave him an unusually long ovation. Djokovic shook his head and his eyes welled with tears.

"Not easy to stand there as a runner-up again," Djokovic said, "but I lost to a better player who played some courageous tennis."

The 28-year-old Djokovic has won eight Grand Slam championships: five at the Australian Open, two at Wimbledon and one at the U.S. Open. He must

wait a year for another chance to become the eighth man with at least one title from each major.

Djokovic came up short against Rafael Nadal in the 2012 and 2014 finals. He cleared that hurdle this year, defeating the nine-time champion in the quarterfinals. Djokovic then defeated Andy Murray in a two-day, five-set semifinal that concluded about 25 hours before Sunday's start.

"Maybe in some important moments, I didn't feel I had that explosivity in the legs, but, look,

at the end of the day, (Wawrinka) was just a better player," Djokovic said.

Normally, it's Djokovic's sliding, stretching, body-contorting defense that wears down opponents, but he looked spent after lengthy baseline exchanges that went 20, 30, even 40 strokes.

When he clinched the first set, Djokovic swiveled to look toward his coaches, Boris Becker and Marian Vajda, and belatedly. The trophy, propped on the wooden edge of the president's box, stood but a few feet away, glistening.

SERENA

From Page 28

in tennis history to get No. 20. "This is up there, because I was not at my best."

Hours earlier, she had beaten Lucie Safarova 6-3, 6-7 (2), 6-2 in a seesaw final for her third title at Roland Garros, despite dealing with an illness that Williams said made her consider pulling out of the tournament.

She fell behind 2-0 in the third set against the 13th-seeded Safarova before taking the last six games. In four other matches at Roland Garros this year, Williams lost the opening set. "Down a break. Down a

break. Down a break. Down a break. And I just kept coming back and I kept fighting," Williams said, reflecting on her circuitous route through the draw. "I just kept thinking, 'I'm not going to give up. I'm not going to stop. I'm just going to do the best I can.' And it just really kind of goes to show that old adage of 'never give up.'"

Williams coughed and sniffled and blew her nose into a tissue during the brief question-and-answer session.

She spent most of Friday in bed, skipping a practice session, and, in her words, came "pretty close" to withdrawing. Her coach, Patrick Moura-

toglou, said Williams "could barely walk" on Friday and pondered not playing in the title match, "but between thinking about it and actually doing it, there is a step that she was far from taking."

Hard to imagine Williams not giving it a go.

The 33-year-old American is the second-oldest woman to win the clay-court tournament in Paris, 25 days younger than Hungary's Zsuzsi Kormoczy was in 1958. Williams is, after all, nothing if not a fighter on court, seemingly able to will herself to victory—even when not at the height of her considerable powers.

TAN

From Page 27

Kanoa Mighty Orange had a similar 2-0-2 record, but won the tiebreak against Shirley's FC and took the No. 3 seeding to arrange a Final Four showdown with MPU 1. MPU 1, which finished the elimination with a 3-0-1 mark, went on to edge Kanoa Mighty Orange in the semis, 4-2, and barged into the finals against the eventual division champion Tan Holdings Dark.

Tan Holdings made it two in a row against MP United, as THFC Nature outclassed MPU 1 in the U8 finale on Field 1, 3-1. Andrei Kaitlyn Chavez canned a pair of goals for THFC

Nature, while Mark Ryan Costales contributed one to lift their team to the division championship. Ian Song registered the lone goal for MPU 1.

THFC Nature, which also has Brandon John, Kohjiro Goto, David Khadka, Julie Anne Chavez, Cavin Chon, and Nash Santos as members, qualified to the finals after outlasting Paire FC in overtime in the semifinals, 2-1. In the other Final Four pairing, MPU 1 also labored to make it to the finals, prevailing against Matansa in penalty shootout, 1-0. Regulation ended at 1-1.

MPU 1 and THFC Nature's semis victories were upsets as they recorded them against

much higher seeded foes. THFC Nature was ranked fourth in the playoffs after compiling a 1-1-2 record, while MPU 1 finished third in the six-team field with 1-2-1 mark. Paire ruled the elimination with its 3-1-0 card, while Matansa came in at second after earning a 1-3-0 slate.

Meanwhile, THFC Nature and Tan Holdings Dark players and coaches received miniature trophies, while the runners-up got medals. Northern Marianas Islands Football Association general secretary Ross Zapanata and NMIFA vice president and youth committee league official Vickie Izuka led the awards presentation.

NMI

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Kabiriel, James Lee, Dino Manning, Ben Olopai, Joe Quan, and Jason.

Northern Marianas Athletics secretary general Robin Sapong and triathlon's Brad Ruszala are the team managers for their respective sports, while Manning will also act as assistant team manager for va'a.

Northern Mariana Islands Volleyball Association youth development head of indoor

programs Darcy Wylie (beach volleyball), Commonwealth Bodybuilding Federation president John Davis Jr., and Jacoby Winkfield and Elna De Jesus (swimming) are either head or assistant coaches.

Stearns and his wife, Janet, will also be the sailing coaches, while Tarkong will also have the capacity of coach for va'a.

White said that he also expects a few more non-athletes to be added on the list in the future.

American Samoa, the Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Guam, the

Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, Nauru, New Caledonia, Niue, Norfolk Island, Samoa, Palau, the Solomon Islands, Tahiti, Tonga, Tuvalu, Tokelau, and Wallis and Futuna are the other competing countries aside from the CNMI and host Papua New Guinea.

This will also be the first time that the Pacific Games Council decided to allow Australia and New Zealand to join on a trial basis in only four sports: rugby sevens, sailing, taekwondo, and weightlifting.

Blue Haus pounds Motion Auto in Masters finale



By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
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REPORTER

Blue Haus played no let up in the Masters division finals of the 2015 United Filipino Organization to ease past Motion Auto, 100-67, last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The 33-point winning margin was a fitting finale in Blue Haus' stellar season, which was highlighted by a perfect record in seven games. Blue Haus duplicated its feat in the 2013 season where it went unbeaten in 12 matches en route to stealing the championship from 2012 winner Armatech.

Blue Haus drew solid games from Edsel Mendoza and Tony Diaz, and got ample contributions from Ernie Moises and Junar Guiab to walk away with its second straight Masters crown in the same league. Mendoza had a game-high 26 points, while Diaz tallied 24 to make up for half of Blue Haus' total production. Moises chipped in 13, while Guiab contributed 12.

Moises, Diaz, and Mendoza

delivered the early telling blows for Blue Haus, as the trio combined for 26 in the team's pivotal 34-14 scoring surge in the second quarter. Moises knocked in 11 points in the breakaway, Mendoza nailed 8, and Diaz registered 7.

Before Blue Haus' second-quarter explosion, Motion Auto was just facing an 8-point deficit at the end of the first period, 17-25. Motion Auto kept Blue Haus within striking distance in the opening canto after drawing back-to-back triples from Miso Usi early in the game and getting points from four other players.

Marlon Sison matched Usi's

two triples in the second period, but that was the last shots from downtown that Motion Auto would hit, as it failed to match Blue Haus' offensive firepower in the second frame.

The second canto ended with Blue Haus enjoying a huge 59-31 advantage and despite its wide margin, the eventual champion did not sit on its laurels in the second half. Blue Haus kept pounding on Motion Auto, both on offense and defense as if the former was the one on a deep hole. Players on the bench were overheard telling their teammates to pretend the lead was just single digit and they must pour in more to

take the game away for good.

The match was eventually out of Motion Auto's reach early in fourth with the lead ballooning to as much as 36 points, 85-49. Mendoza then put the finishing touches on Blue Haus' lopsided victory, scoring the team's last 8 points with 6 of them coming from beyond the arc.

Blue Haus 100 – Mendoza 26, Diaz 24, Moises 13, Guiab 12, Buenabajo 6, Santos 6, F. Palacios 6, Patawaran 5, Factor 2.

Motion Auto 67 – Guiang 13, Galulu 11, Viola 10, Usi 9, Sison 6, Mateo 6, Yalung 4, Montes 4, Balgos 4.

Scoring by quarters: 25-17, 59-31, 81-49, 100-67.



Tan Holdings triumphs in U8, U10 divisions



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

THFC Nature players and their coaches gather for a group photo after winning the U8 division crown in the 2015 NMIFA 3v3 Grassroots Football Day Tournament last Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Tan Holdings Dark U10 players and coach Albert Bergancia pose with their trophies during the awards ceremony for the 2015 NMIFA 3v3 Grassroots Football Day Tournament last Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
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REPORTER

Tan Holdings bagged two division crowns in the 2015 NMIFA 3v3 Grassroots Football Day Tournament held last Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

Tan Holdings Dark gave the club its first championship in the weekend tournament after demolishing MP United Blue 1 on Field 2, 6-0. Anthony John Bergancia starred in Tan Hold-

ings Dark's title win, scoring five goals, while Angelo Pulido nailed the other goal for the winning squad.

Joining Bergancia and Pulido on the champion team are Francisco Sablan, Neriah Nicole Lumbad, Rizza Relucio, and Mark Janier Chavez. Albert Bergancia coached Tan Holdings Dark.

The division champion marched into the finals after a

similar 6-0 semis win over Shirley's Football Club. Earlier in the elimination, Tan Holdings Dark topped the seven-team field with its immaculate 4-0-0 win-draw-loss record and 17 goals scored to clinch the No. 1 seed and set up a semis duel against the fourth-ranked Shirley's FC. Shirley's FC notched a 2-0-2 slate to catch the last bus to the playoff round.



See TAN on Page 26

Saipan All-Stars set for district meet

By **JON PEREZ**
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REPORTER

Saipan's bid to represent the CNMI in this year's Asia-Pacific-Middle East Majors division regional tournament begins next week when they face Rota in a race-to-three series.

The CNMI district tournament is set from June 18 to 20 in Rota with Tinian opting to skip the event as it failed to form a team. The regionals will be held at the Guilin Institute of Tourism in Guilin, China from July 13 to 21.

Saipan manager Joseph A. Flores said he and coaches Tomas A. Camacho and Michael A. Cruz scheduled practices four times a week where they spent two to three hours on the field.

"So they could get used to playing with one another. They came from different teams that is why the challenge is how to make them gel," said Flores.

The team is a selection of a pitcher-heavy squad composed of the best 14 players from the 12 teams that competed last season.

"These boys can also hit but most of the players can pitch. In every selection, we choose to have more pitchers, since unlike in the regular season in your tournament, you can rest your pitchers. Pitch count is strictly monitored to avoid injuries," said Flores.

Flores added that with the help of Camacho and Cruz's guidance the team is again

learning the basics of baseball.

"It is the same mechanics when playing. We're teaching them again the basics like fielding grounders, batting, and pitching. These kids already know it but we just have to remind them," he said.

"We also practice plays so they would know what to expect in the games, how to react and what to do if they encountered certain situations like how to prevent base runners from advancing, and making double or triple plays."

Flores said that they are scheduled to leave for Rota on June 17. "We're ready to go to the next level. We'll do our best to win against Rota."

The team is composed of lone female player Kiana Aldan, Jordan Babauta, Saipan Little League regular season most valuable player Vicente A. Camacho II, finals MVP Zachary Camacho, Justin Celis, Orren Cruz, Donaven Deleon Guerrero, Aven Evangelista, Kyle Kapileo, Antonio Deleon Guerrero, Norita, Devon B. Pangelinan, Sean Rabauliman, Joven Reyes, and Zakariahs Reyes.

JON PEREZ

Batter Orren Cruz tries to avoid being hit by a Kiana Aldan pitch while catcher Devon Pangelinan looks on during the team's practice session last Saturday at the Miguel Basa Pangelinan ballfield.





James carries
Cavs to OT win
over Warriors,
evens NBA Finals

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Saipan Tribune Sports

Saipan Int'l Fish-
ing Tournament
on July 25-26

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28 TUESDAY, JUNE 9, 2015

SAIPAN TRIBUNE



Wawrinka wins French Open title

PARIS (AP)—Moments before his third French Open final in four years, Novak Djokovic jogged in a stadium hallway near a poster of the Coupe des Mousquetaires, the silver trophy awarded to the men's champion at the only major tournament he has never won.

This time, it would be Stan Wawrinka standing between the No. 1-seeded Djokovic and the title at Roland Garros that the Serb needs for a career Grand Slam.

And once again, Djokovic came up one victory shy, stopped by the eighth-seeded Wawrinka and his magical, one-handed backhand. Wawrinka won his first French Open championship and second major title by stunning Djokovic 4-6, 6-4, 6-3, 6-4 in a superbly played match Sunday.

"I know he's looking for that title," Wawrinka said. "I hope he will get one, one day, because he deserves one."

Wawrinka exited in the first round in Paris a year ago. And he had lost 17 of his past 20 matches against Djokovic. But Wawrinka would not relent on

this sunlit afternoon, compiling twice as many winners, 60 to 30.

"Certainly one of the best matches of my career," Wawrinka said, "if not the best."

That beautiful backhand of his was a big reason; one even made its way around the net post before landing on the red clay.

Another backhand earned the match's last break, to 5-4 in the fourth set. And, fittingly, yet another finished off Djokovic's 28-match winning streak.

Djokovic called the stroke "one of the best one-handed backhands that I have seen."



The 30-year-old Wawrinka, so long in the shadow of his Swiss Davis Cup teammate and pal Roger Federer, added to the cham-

pionship he won at last year's Australian Open. That's when Wawrinka became the first man in 21 years to beat the top two seeds en route to a Grand Slam title. He duplicated that in Paris, eliminating No. 2 Federer in the quarterfinals before toppling Djokovic.

When Djokovic received the

See WAWRINKA on Page 26

SIDEBAR

Serena says No. 20 was about as tough as any of her majors

By HOWARD FENDRICH
AP TENNIS WRITER

PARIS (AP)—When some-

one has won as many significant matches and titles as Serena Williams—her Grand Slam trophy count now stands

at 20—it can be hard to decide how to sort them by degree of difficulty or order of importance.

She puts her 2015 French Open championship high on the list.

"It's hard. I need to sit down and, like, rank them," Williams told a small group of reporters Saturday evening after becoming the third player

See SERENA on Page 26



Serena Williams of the U.S. slams a forehand to Lucie Safarova of the Czech Republic during their final match of the French Open tennis tournament at the Roland Garros stadium, Saturday, June 6, 2015 in Paris.

NMI to send 25 athletes, 7 officials to PNG

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

The CNMI will be sending a 32-member delegation composed of 25 athletes and seven officials to next month's XV Pacific Games set from July 4 to 18 at the Sir John Guise Sports Complex in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea.

Northern Marianas Sports Association president Michael A. White, who will also be the CNMI's chef de mission, said some of those who will be going to the two-week quadrennial event will be participating in more than one sport.

"A person may be listed twice or three times if he or she is going in more than one

capacity. For example, as an athlete and coach in one or two different sports," added

White.

The CNMI will be competing in eight of the 28 sports offered in the Pacific Games, namely, athletics, beach volleyball, bodybuilding, golf, sailing, swimming, triathlon, and va'a (outrigger canoe).

Team CNMI is composed of Beouch Ngirchongor and Orrin Pharmin (athletics); Andrew Johnson and Clay McCullough-Stearns (beach volleyball); Donovan Men-diola and Aaron Tomokane

(bodybuilding); and Peter Prestley and Dr. Tony Stearns (triathlon).

The four-member golf team of Joseph Camacho, Harry Nakamura, Franco Santos, and Luis Tilipao (golf); and the swimming trio of Victoria Chentsova, Angel De Jesus, and Takumi Sugie.

Stearns is also entered in sailing where he'll join his wife Dr. Janet McCullough-Stearns, and their daughter Emma Rose McCullough-Stearns.

The CNMI's eight-member va'a team is composed of Joe Ayuyu, Carter Calma, Jack

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White

